



# Office of the President and Vice President

# *Hózhóójí Nahat'á Bahane'*

## ONE YEAR REPORT

JANUARY 2020



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### Office of the President and Vice President

100 Parkway  
Post Office Box 3440  
Window Rock, Arizona 86515  
Phone (928) 871-7000  
Fax (928) 871-4025

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Office of the President and  
Vice President, please visit  
<http://www.opvp.navajo-nsn.gov>  
email [nnopvp.communications@gmail.com](mailto:nnopvp.communications@gmail.com)  
or find us on Facebook and Twitter.



Prepared by:  
**Communications Director**  
Jared Touchin  
**Sr. Public Information Officer**  
Crystalyne Curley



# Welcome Message from President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer

Yá'át'ééh to all of our Diné citizens – we are pleased to present this one-year report from the Nez-Lizer Administration. On January 15, 2019, we took the sacred oath of office bestowed upon us by the votes of the Navajo people. During our campaign, we visited over 75 chapters and we listened to the issues and concerns brought forth by the people – we spent many hours meeting and documenting these matters.

Based on the voice of the Navajo people, our administration developed the “Hozhó Diné bi Nahat’á” document to drive our work and commitment for the Navajo People. This document, based on the priorities of the Navajo People, continues to guide our administration’s divisions, departments, and programs to serve our people and our communities.

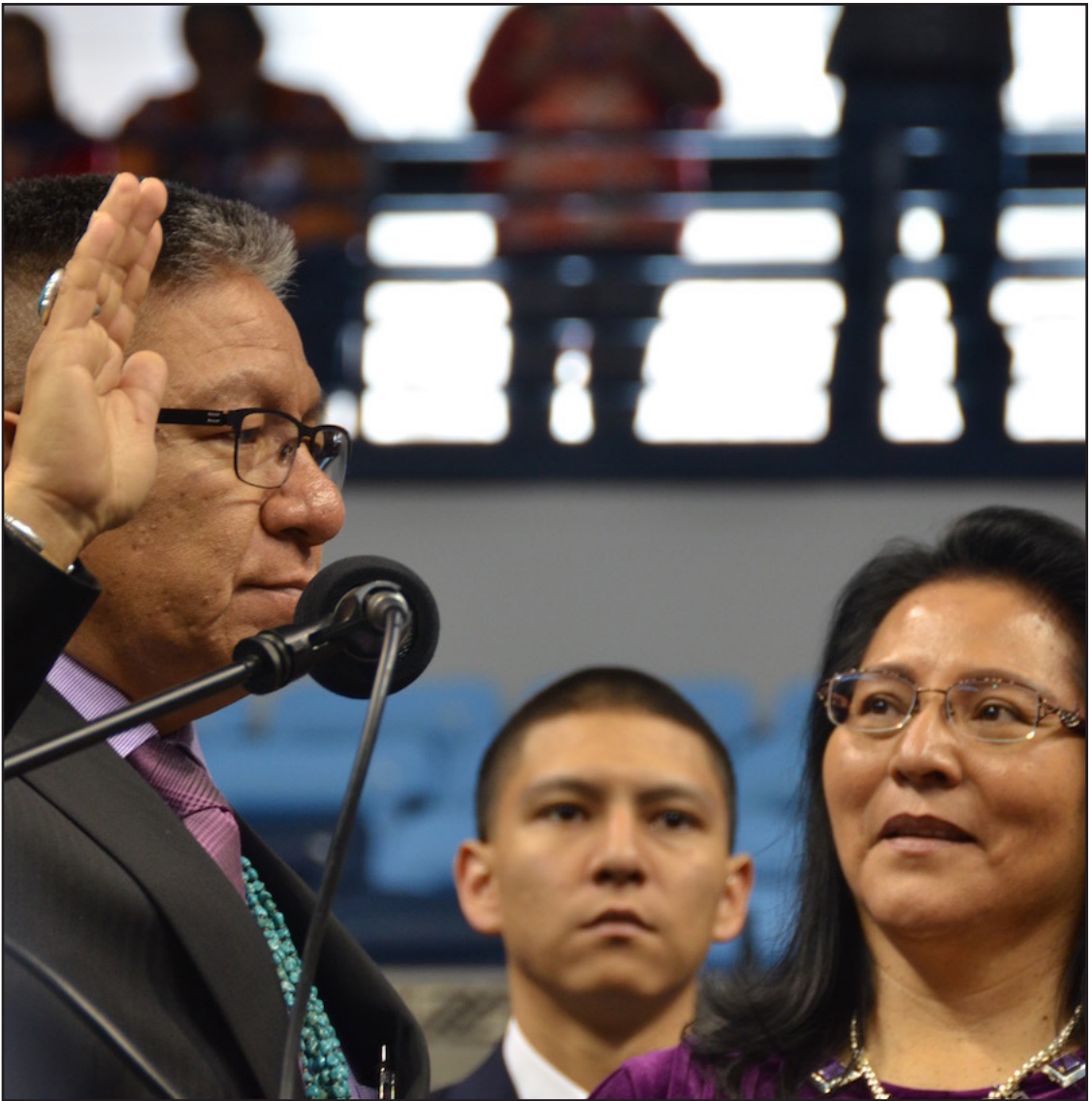
As we have previously stated, our administration believes that change presents an opportunity – the opportunity to work together to strengthen and empower our people and our communities through the teaching we know as, “T’áá hwó’ ajít’éego,” or self-reliance and self-determination. The Nez-Lizer Administration continues to reinforce this teaching throughout the Navajo Nation, particularly among our young people.

To create change and better the lives of our people, we need to believe in ourselves individually, collectively, and at the government level, to become truly self-reliant and to determine our own future. T’áá hwó’ ajít’éego is a critical teaching that our administration continues to promote and practice.

In the following pages, we provide an overview of some highlights and achievements within the first year of our administration and the ongoing progress of other initiatives. We understand that we cannot create change and move our Nation forward on our own, we need the partnership and support of many others to do so.

In the coming year, in addition to the ongoing initiatives we intend to focus on creating more positive changes within the Executive Branch by reviewing and changing plans of operations for our programs and divisions that promote efficiency and effectiveness. With anticipated declines in revenues for the Nation, it is also incumbent upon us to take measures to be more fiscally responsible and to cut unnecessary expenses in the coming years. We look forward to sharing these changes with the Navajo people in the coming year.

We assure you that the Nez-Lizer Administration will continue working with you to create a better future for all of our people. God bless each of you, and God bless our great Navajo Nation!





# Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President

## A New Vision for Energy Development

### Háyoolkááł Proclamation



Well within 100 days into office, the Nez-Lizer Administration set a new vision for energy development for the long-term benefit of the Navajo people. On April 2, 2019, President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer issued a historic proclamation stating that the Navajo Nation will pursue and prioritize renewable energy development.

The proclamation known as Navajo Háyoolkááł or Navajo Sunrise, was signed by President Nez and Vice President Lizer, to create a new economic vision by transitioning to renewable energy. The proclamation states that through the Diné teaching of “T’áá hwó’ ajít’éego” and for the many who have called upon our Nation’s leaders to transition away from our overdependence on fossil fuels, the Navajo Nation will strive for a balanced energy portfolio and will pursue and prioritize clean renewable energy development for the long-term benefit of the Navajo People and our communities.

The Háyoolkááł Proclamation also created the Háyoolkááł Work Group comprised of officials from the Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources, Department of Justice, Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Economic Development, Division of Community Development, Navajo Nation Washington Office, and the Office of the President and Vice President. Since its creation, the work group has served as the Navajo Nation’s clearinghouse for energy development proposals and continues to meet on a regular basis to strategize and plan for the long-term vision and priorities related to energy development of the Navajo Nation.

### Navajo Nation Energy Office

The Háyoolkááł Work Group will continue serving as the primary clearinghouse for energy projects along with the Navajo Nation Energy Office when it is established. The office was funded with approximately \$663,000 in the current year’s budget, however, enabling legislation to officially create the office was previously tabled by the Navajo Nation Council. The Nez-Lizer Administration remains ready to implement the energy office to assume many of the ongoing initiatives in collaboration with the Háyoolkááł Work Group.

### Solar Development Projects

Since the proclamation was issued, the Nez-Lizer Administration has made progress with the development of the Paragon Bitsi Ranch solar development project in the Navajo community of Huerfano in the state of New Mexico. The project would use approximately 660 acres of land in Huerfano for the solar utility scale development.

President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer were successful in lobbying for an additional \$2 million in Capital Outlay Funds from the state of New Mexico last year for the solar project. Since then, the Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources has secured a project developer and a project manager to oversee the construction and completion of the project, which is anticipated to begin producing solar powered electricity in the coming years – another big step forward in renewable energy for the Nation.

### Acquisition of 500 Megawatts of Transmission



On Dec. 28, 2019, President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer set the Navajo Nation on course to secure the rights to 500 megawatts along the Navajo Generating Station transmission lines that will allow the Nation to earn revenue from the use or marketing of transmission of electrical power.

This initiative is realized through the approval of legislation approving \$1.9 million from the Nation’s Unreserved, Undesignated Fund Balance for payment to the Bureau of Reclamation for the annual capital costs associated with the 500MW. The resolution also calls for the creation of an account to hold all revenue generated from the 500MW to be used to repay the \$1.9 million, to pay for future annual costs, and to fund energy-related projects.

The acquisition of the 500 megawatts places the Navajo Nation in the driver seat to determine its own energy future in accordance with the Nez-Lizer Administration’s Háyoolkááł Proclamation, which was issued in April and states that the Nation will pursue and prioritize renewable energy development for the long-term benefit of the Navajo people.

This milestone marks the beginning of a new era for the Navajo Nation — the start of new opportunities. The Nez-Lizer Administration recognizes that NGS provided many benefits for the workers and their families, but times are changing and energy development is changing. The demand for coal-based energy is no longer at its peak, not only in our region but across the country. As Diné people, we have always been resilient in times of change, and that’s what we are doing by pursuing renewable energy options. We are looking to become the leader in renewable energy throughout the Southwest and Indian Country.

### Strengthening Navajo Nation’s Economy

#### “Buy Navajo, Buy Local”

When the Nez-Lizer Administration took office in January, President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer focused on the Navajo concept of “T’áá hwó’ ajít’éego,” which means self-reliance or self-determination for us as individuals.



This powerful teaching is what drives us as individuals to work hard every day and pursue what we want in life. In terms of economic development initiatives, this concept plays a very significant role in how we think and how we work together to help our communities and entrepreneurs.

In order to help our Nation prosper economically, the Nez-Lizer Administration has become a proponent of “Buy Navajo, Buy Local” and we’ve made it a top priority. “Buy Navajo, Buy Local” basically means that we want our Diné people to purchase their products and services on the Navajo Nation from our own people. We need to change the mindsets of many to support small businesses on the Navajo Nation as opposed to having our consumers spend millions and millions each year in border towns. Over the last year, we are proud to see many of our own people promoting “Buy Navajo, Buy Local” and supporting Navajo businesses and entrepreneurs.

If businesses off the Navajo Nation realize how much they rely on Navajo consumers to sustain their businesses then we can also show our people that we are a sleeping giant when it comes to our economic potential. President Nez and Vice President Lizer invite you to become part of the “Buy Navajo, Buy Local” movement.

**Empowering Navajo Entrepreneurs**



With the concept of “Buy Navajo, Buy Local” in mind, the Navajo Nation Division of Economic Development began hosting entrepreneur roundtable discussions for Navajo business owners and those that are striving to start their own business. The purpose of the roundtable discussions is to have Navajo business owners offer recommendations for policy changes and to engage with and help one another to share their experiences as business owners.

**New Jobs for Navajo People**



On Nov. 11, 2019, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer were joined by members of the 24th Navajo Nation Council and Rhino

Health, LLC, CEO Mark Lee as they signed into law Resolution CO-31-19, appropriating approximately \$19 million from the Sihasin Fund to the Navajo Nation Division of Economic Development Project Development Department for the Church Rock Industrial Park Project Phase Two, and adopts the Church Rock Industrial Park Project Fund Expenditure Plan.

The Church Rock Industrial Park Project is located within the community of Church Rock, N.M, approximately five-miles east of Gallup, N.M. Rhino Health, LLC, an international nitrile glove manufacturing company, is currently beginning operation of the first phase of the nitrile glove manufacturing plant to produce nitrile gloves. The phase one and two facilities will offer as many as 350 jobs new jobs on the Navajo Nation, and it will use 100-percent Navajo labor to construct the facility.

This project is a great example of what partnerships can do to bring economic opportunities to the Navajo Nation. The manufacturing plant will help individuals needing jobs to provide for their families. This would not have been possible without past leadership and the collaboration of all the three branches of the Navajo Government and the Division of Economic Development under the leadership of Executive Director JT Willie. As the project develops further, more jobs will be created for our Navajo people. We thank the 24th Navajo Nation Council for their support of this initiative.

**Hotel and Conference Center**



On Sept. 27, 2019, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Division of Economic Development Executive Director JT Willie joined Crownpoint community members, Crownpoint Chapter officials, and 24th Navajo Nation Council members to celebrate the start of construction of the new Crownpoint Hotel and conference center, in the community of Crownpoint, New Mexico.

The new hotel was part of the Permanent Trust Fund interest income five-year plan that was developed in collaboration with the Crownpoint Chapter, Division of Economic Development, Office of the President and Vice President, and the previous 23rd Navajo Nation Council. Additional funding sources were identified, through the Native American Bank, Navajo Sales Tax fund, Navajo Community Development Financial Institution, and the Office of the President and Vice President, for the \$12.5 million project.

When JT Willie was appointed Executive Director of the Division of Economic Development in January, he allocated additional funds for the project as well. The community of Crownpoint has a vision for their community members and that encompasses economic opportunities and growth. The new hotel and conference center will open new doors of opportunity, new amenities, jobs, out-of-town visitors, and businesses.

**Nahata Dziil Shopping Center**

President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer congratulated the



community of Nahata Dził as the Navajo Nation achieved another milestone with the completion of the Nahata Dził Shopping Center in April 2019. Hundreds of local residents and officials gathered together to celebrate the grand opening of the new shopping center, which includes a Bashas’ grocery store, Pizza Edge, and a laundromat.

The Navajo Nation Division of Economic Development’s Project Development Office worked hard for years to address challenges including the need for a land exchange with the federal government for the site of the shopping center, the development of a new water source and wastewater system, and securing funds for the construction of the shopping center. The shopping center created 120 new jobs and increased tax revenue for the Navajo Nation.

The market was partially funded through the Permanent Trust Fund Income Five-Year Expenditure Plan approved by the 23rd Navajo Nation Council and the Office of the President and Vice President in 2016, which allocated \$150 million for economic development and agriculture development projects, and water infrastructure development from the annual interest earned from the principle.



**Dennehotso Market**

President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer joined Dennehotso residents on Feb. 15, 2019, to celebrate the long-awaited completion of the Dennehotso Market during a grand opening ceremony for the new 6,700 square-foot facility that houses a convenience store, gas station, deli, and laundromat located on the southeast corner of U.S. Hwy. 160 and Indian Route 6465.

The \$4.3 million project created 50 temporary construction jobs and an additional 20 permanent jobs with the opening of the new store, while providing goods and services to thousands of local Navajo residents, and many non-Navajo tourists that travel through the area each year. Economic opportunity is a major part of the Nez-Lizer priorities, and that entails everything that this project represents – jobs for our people, generation of revenue, and reinforcing the concept of ‘Buy Navajo, Buy Local’ throughout the Navajo Nation. Working together with the Dennehotso Chapter, the Navajo Nation Council, and the state of Arizona, we now have this new establishment that will benefit many of our people.

**Infrastructure Development**

**\$28 Million Secured for Capital Outlay Projects**

On April 5, 2019, the Navajo Nation successfully secured over \$28 million in Capital Outlay Funds from the state of New Mexico as Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham signed into law S.B. 280.

Included in the \$28 million allocation was \$2 million for renewable energy development, in accordance with the Nez-Lizer Administration’s Háyookkáál Procla-

mation that prioritizes renewable energy development for the Navajo Nation. Also included is \$3.1 million for a new justice center for the community of Shiprock and over \$1 million for the design and development of a Navajo Code Talker museum, both of which President Nez and Vice President Lizer advocated strongly for.

The Navajo Nation Division of Community Development, under the leadership of Executive Director Dr. Pearl Yellowman, continues to work with the chapters in New Mexico to ensure that the projects funded with the \$28 million appropriation will remain on schedule and in compliance with the state’s policies.

**Tonalea Chapter Facility**



Over 2,000 Tonalea residents will soon receive a new chapter house facility to help deliver services for the community, following the approval of Resolution CO-34-19 by President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer on Nov. 10, 2019, which appropriates \$3 million for the design and construction of the new facility.

For several years, the community has been without a chapter house due to the closure of the former facility due to health and safety concerns following surveys and assessments that identified shifts in the facility’s foundation and walls, traces of asbestos, and other major issues. The former chapter house was built in 1959 and served the community for approximately 50 years before its closure.

Since then, the chapter has held meetings and conducted their daily business in a nearby storage warehouse, the local senior center, and rented office space in Tuba City, which requires Tonalea residents to drive 25 miles to request assistance from their chapter. The Nez-Lizer Administration thanks the Tonalea community, Council Delegate Paul Begay, and many others who advocated and support this initiative.

**Navajo Route 12 Road Improvements**





President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer had the honor of joining Tsailé Wheatfields Chapter President Zane James, Council Delegate Kee Allen Begay, Jr., and community members on Aug. 11, 2019 at the Tsailé/Wheatfields Chapter, as they finalized a contract to allow the Navajo Engineering and Construction Authority in coordination with the Navajo Nation Division of Transportation, to begin construction for the expansion of Navajo Route 12 in the community of Tsailé/Wheatfields.

The \$31 million project will expand the current narrow roadway to create shoulder lanes and graveling on both sides of a 10-mile stretch of N12 beginning north of Wheatfields Lake to the Tsailé intersection. This will allow commuters more room to maneuver in case of emergencies or to avoid collisions with livestock and other wildlife that are common on N12. President Nez said the start of the project symbolizes a revival for the community, and to serve as an example for local empowerment for other communities.

The scope of work will also include the clearing of trees to be used as firewood for local resident in the upcoming winter season, replacement of two bridges, subgrade preparation, installation of drainage culverts, new asphalt pavement, striping, traffic signage and new right-of-way fencing. Former Council Delegate Nelson S. BeGaye, who resigned as a member of the Navajo Nation Council in July, delivered a heartfelt message to give thanks to the community members, local officials, and the Nez-Lizer Administration for working together to get the project moving forward. According to Navajo Nation Division of Transportation Executive Director Garret Silversmith, the construction is anticipated to begin in late September or early October and last for over one year. The division will provide all construction management and monitoring activities.

**Former Bennett Freeze Area – Empowerment Zone**

**Navajo Thaw Implementation Plan**

On Oct. 14, 2019, President Jonathan Nez and Navajo-Hopi Land Commission Office Executive Director Robert Black Jr., were pleased to announce the launch of the Navajo Nation’s partnership with Native Builders LLC and Building Communities to address infrastructure, community, and economic development of nine Navajo chapter areas including Bodaway-Gap, Cameron, Coalmine Canyon, Coppermine, Kaibeto, Leupp, Tolani Lake, Tonalea, and Tuba City located in the area commonly known as the Former Bennett Freeze Area.

The partnership will allow the nine chapters to identify their strategies, initiatives, projects, and priorities to address in a detailed plan, known as the “Navajo Thaw Implementation Plan.” The investment plan will leverage the collective power and energy of the chapters to secure funding and development within the area.

In January 2019, President Nez and Vice President Lizer met the area residents during an open meeting near the Black Falls community and many shared concerns over homesite leases, housing, water and power lines, uranium contamination, emergency assistance for veterans, land boundaries, economic opportunities, and others. As detailed in the Navajo Thaw Implementation Plan, the Navajo Thaw promises to bring the people of the region together at the Chapter level to identify their strategies, initiatives, projects, and priorities that will lead to better economic conditions and higher quality of life.

**Completion of Earthen Dam Repairs**

On Nov. 15, 2019, President Jonathan Nez met with community members and local officials in the community of Tolani Lake, Ariz. to announce the completion of repairs to three earthen dams in the Former Bennet Freeze Area while work continues on other local dams.

On May 21, President Nez met with Tolani Lake residents and officials and



gave his commitment that the Nez-Lizer Administration would advance water projects including water line extensions, installation of water tanks, earthen dam repairs, and water resources for livestock and agriculture. President Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer also met with residents in the remote community of Black Falls in February.

President Nez and Vice President Lizer met with officials with the Navajo Nation Department of Water Resources and the Water Management Branch to identify and secure more resources to help local residents. Tariq Najam with the Department of Water Resources also announced that the Nation will receive new heavy equipment in January, and will designate certain equipment specifically to make improvements for the Former Bennet Freeze Area communities. The Nez-Lizer Administration remains committed to continuing with earthen dam repairs and other improvements for our communities.

**Tolani Lake Water Projects**

On May 21, 2019, President Jonathan Nez convened a meeting on with local officials and residents in the rural community of Tolani Lake, Ariz., to discuss how the Nez-Lizer Administration is helping to advance water projects that includes water line extensions, installation of water tanks, earthen dam repairs, water resources for livestock and agriculture, and more.

He was joined by officials with the Navajo Nation Department of Water Resources and Water Management Branch. Also in attendance were Tolani Lake Chapter officials, the Tolani Lake Livestock and Water Users Association, the USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service, and community members who reported on the progress of ongoing projects including the extension of several miles of water lines that will bring clean water to Navajo families in Black Falls, Leupp, and others that were impacted by the former Bennett Freeze. The Nez-Lizer Administration commends the Tolani Lake residents for being proactive in addressing their water needs and remains committed to supporting the community’s projects.

**Improving Education for Our Navajo Students**

**Navajo Nation Board of Education**

On Dec. 18, 2019, President Jonathan Nez joined the Health, Education, and Human Services Committee as Navajo Nation Associate Justice Eleanor Shirley administered the oath of office for six new Navajo Nation Board of Education members, during a ceremony held in the Navajo Nation Council Chamber in Window Rock, Ariz.

President Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer appointed each of the six members, which were then confirmed by the Health, Education, and Human Services Committee. The six new members will fill the 11-member board, which also includes five elected members from each Navajo agency – marking the first time the board





has had full membership in many years.

President Nez spoke to the new board members about the importance of being accountable, maintaining integrity, and honoring the oath to serve our students and schools.

The six new Navajo Board of Education members are:

Dr. Pauletta J. White has served in the classroom in several capacities including a teacher, guidance counselor, and administrator for 34 years in the public school system. She is currently the Assistant Superintendent of Student Support Services with Gallup McKinley County School overseeing the departments of special education, Indian education, English, bilingual education, counseling, libraries, and home school liaisons. Dr. White will serve a six-year term as the school administration representative on the board.

Andrea K. Thomas is a 5th grade teacher at Mesa Elementary in Shiprock, New Mexico and has over five years of teaching and managing experience in the classroom. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in elementary education from the University of New Mexico and serves on the New Mexico Teacher Leader Network and the New Mexico Teacher Evaluation Task Force. She will serve a six-year term as the teacher representative on the board.

Emerson John currently serves as a Culture Liaison Specialist at Tséhootsooí Medical Center in Ft. Defiance, Arizona and previously served as a traditional coordinator at the Navajo Nation Division of Behavioral Health Services. He is also a member of the Diné Hataali Association and certified as a Navajo practitioner. He will serve a six-year term as one of two traditional Navajo culture representatives on the board.

Joan Benally is a mother and grandmother who currently teaches social studies to 7th and 8th graders at Kayenta Boarding School. She has worked at the school in various capacities over the last 10 years. She earned a degree in education from Northern Arizona University and is currently pursuing a master's degree from NAU as well. She will serve a six-year term as one of two parent representatives on the board.

Spencer J. Willie serves as a project manager for Tribal-D, Inc. software company that serves tribal governments and organizations. He also has extensive experience in government relations and previously worked with Navajo Housing Authority, Navajo Nation Head Start, and Rough Rock Community School. He has a Master's in Public Administration and a Bachelor's of Science in Political Science from Southern Utah University. He will serve a six-year term as one of two parent representatives on the board.

Dr. Henry Fowler currently serves as the Dean of Graduate Studies at Navajo Technical University (NTU). Among his extensive professional experience, he previously served as the chair of Undergraduate Diné Studies at NTU, chair of Math/Physics/Technology at Diné College and Dean of Faculty, and as the vice chair of

the Navajo Nation Commission on Navajo Government Development. He earned a doctorate degree in education from Fielding Graduate University in Santa Barbara, CA, a Master's in Education from Northern Arizona University (NAU), and a Bachelor of Science in secondary math education also from NAU. He will serve a six-year term as one of two traditional Navajo culture representatives on the board.

### **Greasewood Springs Community School**



On Sept. 17, 2019, Greasewood Springs Community School Board members, BIA Navajo Area Director Bart Stevens, and 2019-2020 Miss Navajo Nation Shaandiin Parrish joined Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez at the Office of the President and Vice President, as he signed an agreement between the Navajo Nation and the U.S. Department of the Interior to allow for the construction of new school facilities to replace its current facilities in Greasewood, Ariz.

Once the new school is constructed it will serve hundreds of Navajo students, administrators, and teachers. President Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer thank the school board members for supporting this agreement with the unanimous passage of Greasewood Springs Community School's Resolution 2019-05.

The agreement establishes the final space allocation for the construction of a new school for Greasewood Springs Community School, which was developed in cooperation with the BIA Division of Facilities Management and Construction, Bureau of Indian Education, Navajo Nation, Greasewood Springs Community School, and the U.S. Department of Education.

Along with the new school facility will come full-size classrooms, storage areas, and restroom facilities for over 220 students in K-8 grades. The classrooms will be used for computer labs, science labs, home economics courses, fine arts courses, language and culture courses, special education, gifted and talented courses, library and media center, dining and kitchen areas, administrative offices, conference rooms, and much more.

### **Impact Aid – New Mexico Students**

President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer remain committed to advocating and lobbying for Navajo students in the state of New Mexico on several critical education issues such as impact aid and the Yazzie/Martinez vs. State of New Mexico decision. In August, President Nez met with New Mexico Indian Affairs Cabinet Secretary Lynn Trujillo and New Mexico on Public Education Department Deputy Secretary of Identity Equity and Transformation Kara Bobroff to discuss how to fairly allocate and align programs and policy funding with recently passed laws and ongoing initiatives to best benefit Native American students in the state of New Mexico.

With the upcoming New Mexico State Legislative session scheduled to begin on Jan. 21, 2020, the Nez-Lizer Administration continues to meet with New Mex-





ico state officials and legislators to determine a path forward for legislative bills that seek to resolve these longstanding issues.

**Health Care for the Navajo People**  
**Navajo Nation’s First Cancer Treatment Center**



On May 22, 2019, President Jonathan Nez and First Lady Phefelia Nez had the honor of welcoming former U.S. First Lady Dr. Jill Biden and healthy industry leaders from across the country to the Navajo community of Tuba City, to the first cancer treatment center on the Navajo Nation and all of Indian Country.

The Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation worked for several years to forge new partnerships with universities, health care companies, and health industry professionals to garner support for the cancer treatment center to provide chemotherapy, support groups, and other much needed services for Navajo people who suffer from various types of cancer.

The group visited the cancer treatment center, which provides much needed services for Navajo people who previously had to travel hundreds of miles to Flagstaff to receive treatment. President Nez noted that many Navajo cancer patients are required to receive treatments several times a month, but often lack the resources to travel long distances. Due to these circumstances, many patients were not receiving the adequate treatment they needed.

The group also toured the “House of Hope” located in a neighborhood near the cancer treatment center, which was renovated by TCRHCC to serve as the site for cancer patients to meet to offer support for one another. The Nez-Lizer Administration continues to advocate for more cancer treatment centers on the Navajo Nation.

**Dilkon Medical Center**

President Jonathan Nez joined officials from the Winslow Indian Health Care



Center, Inc., Dilkon Health Center Steering Committee, and Dilkon Chapter on June 25, 2019, to celebrate the start of construction of the new Dilkon Medical Center, which will provide medical services to thousands of Navajo people in Dilkon and nearby communities in the southwestern portion of the Navajo Nation.

In support of local self-governance, President Nez signed and issued a letter on May 9 to Indian Health Service that authorized the Winslow Indian Health Care Center in coordination with the Dilkon Health Care Steering Committee, to complete the design and construction of the medical center under a Title V construction project agreement with IHS.

President Nez said the groundbreaking is the result of years of the hard work and persistence of local officials working in partnership with the Winslow Indian Health Care Center. The project symbolizes what can be accomplished to meet the health care needs of our Navajo people by working together and by empowering our communities,

For many years, the Dilkon Health Care Steering Committee and Dilkon Chapter have advocated for the new medical center and for the ability to oversee the design and construction of the new facility. Winslow Indian Health Care Center Board of Directors Chairman Robert Salabye thanked the Nez-Lizer Administration for supporting local empowerment with the signing of the letter to the IHS, which allowed the project to move forward.

The Nez-Lizer Administration continues to advocate for water projects and resources that would bring more water to the Dilkon area and surrounding communities for other development initiatives, and looks forward to seeing the completion of the Dilkon Medical Center.

**Mental/Behavioral Health Facilities**

On the campaign trail, many of our Navajo people spoke of the need for mental and behavioral health treatment facilities on the Navajo Nation. Many spoke of their personal experiences ajnd challenges of securing treatment for their loved ones. Based on the input from the Navajo people, President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer are working to develop mental and behavioral health treatment facilities in our own communities so that our people can receive help closer to home near their families.

One potential facility is in the community of Birdsprings, Ariz. where Navajo Housing Authority constructed a facility that remains unoccupied. President Nez, NHA officials, and others visited the facility to assess the feasibility of converting the building into a treatment center.

As the Nez-Lizer Administration moves into the second year in office, we remain committed to assessing other sites for the establishment of mental and behavioral health treatment facilities. President Nez and Vice President understand the great needs to help our people.

**Navajo Food Policy**



In April 2019, President Jonathan Nez called for the development of a Navajo Food Policy during the annual Diné Bich’iia’ Summit at Diné College in Tsaile, Arizona, in which he spoke about the importance of healthy living, strengthening the Navajo Nation’s food sovereignty, and revitalizing farming among families.

President Nez spoke about several issues that included the need for the Nation to develop its own food policy, to establish a food regulatory office, which would allow more local Navajo farmers and ranchers to sell their products on the Navajo Nation while having their products inspected in accordance with the policy. He added that if we create a food industry on the Navajo Nation that feeds all of our people then we could even expand to provide foods around the country and maybe even to other countries around the world – true sovereignty at the highest level.

He also spoke about the need for more Diné people and families to grow their own healthy foods through farming, as well as the need for the Nation to increase its overall capacity to farm its own lands. Doing so would allow the Nation to become less dependent on outside food sources and further strengthen the Nation’s sovereignty. As the Nez-Lizer Administration moves forward, we look forward to collaborating with others to develop a comprehensive policy that benefits the Navajo people.

**Protecting Navajo Language and Culture**

**Protecting Chaco Canyon**



Since taking office, President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer have advocated on Capitol Hill and in many other meetings for the protection of Chaco Canyon through H.R. 2181, the “Chaco Cultural Heritage Area Protection Act of 2019” sponsored by Assistant Speaker Ben Ray Luján (D-N.M.) and co-sponsored by Congresswoman Deb Haaland (D-N.M.). The bill aims to permanently ban oil and gas drilling on federal lands in the greater Chaco Canyon region.

In October, the House passed the measure which now requires approval from the Senate before it is sent to President Trump for consideration. Working together with members of the 24th Navajo Nation Council, the Nez-Lizer Administration continues to lobby and advocate for the passage of the bill to protect sacred lands and artifacts in the Chaco landscape that is precious to our Navajo people and many other tribes in New Mexico.

**Navajo Treaty of 1868**

On June 1, 2019, President Jonathan Nez, Vice President Myron Lizer, Chief Justice JoAnn B. Jayne, and members of the 24th Navajo Nation Council unveiled the Navajo Treaty of 1868 – “Tappan Copy,” donated by Clare “Kitty” P. Weaver to the Navajo Nation, during a ceremony held at the Navajo Nation Museum in Window Rock, Ariz.

On June 1, 1868, three copies of the Treaty of 1868 were issued at Fort



Sumner, N.M. One copy was presented to the U.S. Government, which is housed in the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington D.C. The second copy was given to Navajo leader Barboncito – its current whereabouts are unknown.

The third unsigned copy was presented to the Indian Peace Commissioner, Samuel F. Tappan. The original document is also known as the “Tappan Copy” is being donated to the Navajo Nation by Clare “Kitty” P. Weaver, the great grandniece of Samuel F. Tappan, who was the Indian Peace Commissioner at the time of the signing of the treaty in 1868.

The Nez-Lizer Administration commends the staff with the Navajo Nation Museum for bringing home the “Tappan Copy” of the 1868 Treaty. We believe our Navajo people, particularly our young people, can learn a lot from having this important document within our homelands.

**Esther Martinez Native American Languages Programs**

President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer commend the recent passage and enactment of S. 256, the “Esther Martinez Native American Languages Programs Reauthorization Act,” that extends vital language preservation programs for tribes through 2024. The measure was passed by the House on Dec. 9 and signed into law by President Trump on Dec. 20.

In June, President Nez and Vice President Lizer issued a letter of support for the reauthorization to House and Senate members and requested their support for the passage of the bill that was first introduced by U.S. Sen. Tom Udall (D-N.M.) of New Mexico in the Senate and Assistant Speaker Ben Ray Luján (D-N.M.) in the House of Representatives.

The bill is named in honor of Esther Martinez, an Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo traditional storyteller and language advocate who passed away in 2006. It amends existing law to reauthorize two federal Native American language programs at the Administration for Native Americans until 2024, and expands eligibility for those programs to smaller-sized tribal language programs, and allows both programs to offer longer grant periods.

**Housing Initiatives**

**Housing Manufacturing Facilities**

On Sept. 10, 2019, President Jonathan Nez, Vice President Myron Lizer, and Executive Director of the Navajo Veterans Administration James D. Zwierlein met with the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, to continue the development of housing manufacturing facilities on the Navajo Nation. They also visited the site of the first potential housing manufacturing facility in the community of Tuba City, Ariz.

The United Brotherhood of Carpenters is one of the country’s largest building trades union with over a half-million members, including many members of the Navajo Nation. The union offers training and education through the Carpenters In-





ternational Training Fund that is dedicated to job training and certification programs to increase the number of construction professionals with over 200 training facilities throughout the country. President Nez and Vice President Lizer initially met with the union representatives on Aug. 22, to explore opportunities to bring exceptional carpentry training to the Navajo Nation, which would lead to increased construction and homebuilding.

The ultimate goal is to develop several housing manufacturing facilities on the Navajo Nation to build homes for veterans. President Nez and Vice President Lizer tasked Director Zwierlein with establishing the housing manufacturing facilities, to provide high-quality homes that are built to last, in accordance with international building codes.

This is an exciting opportunity to begin building homes for our people here on the Navajo Nation rather than relying on outside resources and companies. We can build our Navajo workforce using the thousands of skilled Navajo workers who are currently working off the Navajo Nation — we can bring our people home.

## Reuniting Our Diné Relatives

### Diné Nihik'éeí Nihíí' Násdłjį': Work Group, Reunite our Diné Relatives



Soon after taking office, the Nez-Lizer Administration established The Diné Nihik'éeí Nihíí' Násdłjį': Reunite our Diné Relatives Workgroup was established to focus on healing, restoring, and reuniting Navajo families through prevention efforts and awareness. The groups seek solutions to these social ills through healing, empowering, and promoting self-resiliency among our relatives and communities. The need to restore harmony and balance back within our homes.

The Work Group is led by the Office of the First Lady and Second Lady, to address issues and concerns related to social ills impacting Navajo families and missing and murdered peoples, including Missing and Murdered Diné Relatives, domestic violence, suicide, and others.

Members of the workgroup include Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety Director Jesse Delmar, Chief of Police Phillip Francisco, Navajo Nation Division of Social Services Director Deannah Neswood-Gishey, Navajo Nation Department of Health Director Dr. Jill Jim, Miss Navajo Nation Shaandiin Parrish, Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council, Navajo Nation Women's Commission, Indian Health Services, and staff of the Office of the President and Vice President. The creation of the Diné Nihik'éeí Nihíí' Násdłjį' workgroup is a step forward for the protection and empowerment of Navajo families. First Lady and Second Lady will be hosting a summit to address efforts to restore balance, love, and harmony within Navajo families soon.

### MMIW Task Forces – New Mexico and Arizona

President Jonathan Nez, Vice President Myron Lizer, and the Office of the First Lady and Second Lady are pleased to announce the appointment of Navajo Nation First Lady Phefelina Nez by New Mexico Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham to serve on New Mexico's Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Task Force.

In March, Gov. Grisham signed N.M. House Bill 278 into law to establish a task force to investigate the epidemic of missing and murdered Indigenous women in the state of New Mexico. First Lady Nez will assist the task force in assessing and determining how to increase state resources for reporting and identifying victims.

In her new role, the First Lady will have the opportunity to work with state and federal officials, tribal members, and advocates to collaborate with tribal law enforcement agencies to identify barriers to improve the reporting, investigating, and data collection of missing and murdered Indigenous women.

First Lady Nez and Second Lady Dottie Lizer will also work closely with the state of Arizona's study committee on missing and murdered Indigenous women to establish methods for collecting data, reviewing policies, practices, and prosecutorial practices, and identifying barriers to track violent crimes committed against Indigenous women and girls.

### Executive Order



On Nov. 26, 2019, Vice President Myron Lizer and Second Lady Dottie Lizer joined President Donald Trump in the Oval Office, for the signing of an executive order to establish an inter-agency task force to address the epidemic of missing and murdered American Indians and Alaska persons. U.S. Attorney Gen. William Barr, U.S. Department of the Interior Secretary David Bernhardt, and other tribal leaders were also in attendance at the White House for the ceremony.

Vice President Lizer said the executive order is another step forward for Indigenous nations throughout the country. He also commended President Trump and his administration for recognizing the traumatic epidemic of missing and murdered Indigenous relatives. Throughout our tribal nations, we hear far too many stories of families, victims, and survivors so we need to keep our sacred women and children safe and protected.



On Nov. 22, U.S. Attorney General William Barr announced the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples Initiative, which will invest \$1.5 million to hire specialized coordinators within the offices of U.S. Attorneys who will be tasked with developing protocols for a more coordinated response to violence against Indigenous people.

The executive order will launch “Operation Lady Justice,” a task force led by Attorney General Barr and Secretary Bernhardt to develop an aggressive, government-wide strategy to improve the safety of Native American communities. The order will also allow tribal and local law enforcement to seek assistance from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the U.S. Justice Department, who will conduct an in-depth review of federal databases to determine best practices for collecting data on missing and murdered Indigenous persons.

The Nez-Lizer Administration thanks the 24th Navajo Nation Council and many other advocacy groups and task forces that have worked very hard to bring these issues to the forefront and to make the signing of the executive order possible.

**Diné Youth and Elders**

**\$50 Million Scholarship Initiative**



President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer continue to request support for Legislation No. 0238-19, which was developed in coordination with the Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President, to set aside \$50 million from the Navajo Nation Síhasin Fund to establish an endowment to create more scholarship opportunities for Navajo students.

Since May, President Nez and Vice President Lizer met with members of the 24th Navajo Nation Council and Office of Navajo Nation Scholarship and Financial Assistance Manager Rose Graham on several occasions to layout the framework for the \$50 million proposal. The need for more scholarship funding was a top priority for our Navajo people during our campaign and our administration is dedicated to having this measure approved by the Council to help our Navajo students.

**Crownpoint Youth Center**

On June 15, 2019, President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer joined the Crownpoint community for the signing of Resolution CMY-18-19, which approved \$2.5 million from the Navajo Nation’s Síhasin Fund to assist with the construction of a new youth center for the community of Crownpoint, N.M.

The Office of the President and Vice President invited the Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council, 24th Navajo Nation Council, New Mexico Deputy Secretary of Indian Affairs Nadine Padilla, Office of Diné Youth, Navajo Technical University, and local community members to join President Nez and Vice President Lizer as they continue their commitment to support Navajo youth with the signing of the bill during the symbolic signing ceremony.

According to the Crownpoint Office of Diné Youth, the new 27,000 square-foot youth complex will be constructed adjacent to the existing Office of Diné Youth facility. The new facility will include a gymnasium, locker/shower facilities, full kitchen, weight room, teen center, art classroom, library, and offices. Exterior amenities will include a playground, amphitheater, gardening area, and a parking lot. Navajo Housing Authority has also awarded over \$7 million for the project.

**Birdsprings Elderly Group Home**



President Jonathan Nez was joined by First Lady Phefelia Nez, 24th Navajo Nation Council Delegate Thomas Walker, Jr., Tsidi To’iichapter officials, administration, and community members as he signed the master lease between the Navajo Nation and the Navajo Housing Authority for the Birdsprings Elderly Group Home, located adjacently east of the Tsidi To’iiChapter in Birdsprings, Ariz. on Dec. 15, 2019.

The facility was constructed in 2009 through the Native American Housing and Self-Determination Act, which assist Native American tribes in improving housing and infrastructure. The facility has approximately ten units, a kitchen, laundry rooms, living areas, and administrative rooms.

During the campaign, President Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer visited the community of Birdsprings and heard their concerns including the elder home and the need to complete the facility. The Nez-Lizer Administration took a proactive approach to honor the community’s request and to move forward the project for our Navajo elders.

**UofA Navajo Law Fellowship Program**

President Jonathan Nez was joined by Miss Navajo Nation Shaandiin Parrish as he finalized a Memorandum of Agreement with the University of Arizona at the James E. Rogers School of Law on Dec. 3, 2019, which establishes the Navajo Law Fellowship Program with the overall goal of increasing the number of Navajo law school graduates and creating pathways to legal careers.

President Nez said the new fellowship program is an investment in the future of the Navajo Nation, and also empowers young Navajo people to determine their own future and creates another pathway for Navajo students to come home and give back to their communities. Under the terms of the MOA, the Office of Navajo Nation Scholarship and Financial Assistance and the University of Arizona will partner to match financial aid awards to Navajo law school students who are part of the fellowship program.

In addition, first-year law school students will receive academic advisement, information, and an overview of the Navajo Nation legal system and legal career possibilities within the Navajo Nation. They will also be placed in a summer honors externship that may include rotations through selected Navajo Nation law offices, court locations, legal aid offices and other placements.



Second-year students will be offered a course on Navajo Nation law and the legal system. The summer externships will build on the first-year experiences and include a workshop that helps to prepare for the Navajo Nation Bar Exam. Third-year students will participate in a workshop that prepares them for the Arizona Bar Exam and Navajo Nation placement following the exam.

As part of the program, the Office of Navajo Nation Scholarship and Financial Assistance will also provide additional funds to cover a portion of fees for students who are admitted to and attend the Pre-Law Summer Institute at the University of New Mexico and fees for the state bar exam application and the Bar Review course necessary to help prepare for the bar exam.

**New Elderly Transportation Vans**



President Jonathan Nez and officials from the Navajo Nation Division of Aging and Long-Term Care Support celebrated the arrival of new transportation vans and food delivery vehicles for senior centers in Window Rock on Feb. 13, 2019. The vans were delivered to the five Navajo agencies to help Navajo elders that benefit from senior center services.

President Nez said initiative was the culmination of the collaborative efforts between the Navajo Nation Department of Health, Division of General Services, Division of Aging and Long-Term Care Support, and the Navajo Nation Council. He added that the new vans ensure that Navajo elders travel in safe and reliable transportation, and helps to provide meals to Navajo elders in their homes who are unable to travel to senior centers.

In April 2018, the 23rd Navajo Nation Council approved legislation sponsored by Council Delegate Amber Kanazbah Crotty, which provided \$2.8 million from the Navajo Nation’s Unreserved, Undesignated Fund Balance to the Division of Aging and Long-Term Care Support to fund needs assessments, equipment, food menu consultation, and the new vehicles.

The Nez-Lizer Administration recognizes that our Navajo elders play an important role in our families and communities. They carry on the knowledge of our way of life and they bring us joy and comfort within our families, so we must continue to provide adequate resources and services for them.

**Navajo Veterans Initiatives**

**Executive Director**

On Nov. 19, 2019, President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer finalized a contract for James D. Zwierlein, who has served as the acting director since July, to serve as the Executive Director of the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration, which was completed in consultation with the Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council.

Zwierlein has resided in Nahodishgish, N.M. for nearly four years with his wife



Marie Zwierlein and their two children. Prior to his appointment, Zwierlein served as an Executive Staff Assistant with the Office of the President and Vice President and was assigned to work on housing issues, which included veterans housing.

Zwierlein was honorably discharged in 2011 after approximately 15 years of service in various capacities with the Marine Corps, which included serving as a liaison to members of the U.S. Intelligence Oversight Committee, as an Operations Chief with the 11th Marine Artillery Regiment in which he managed and coordinated nation building projects in Afghanistan to rebuild and stabilize local economies. He also served as a project manager at Camp Las Pulgas, where he managed the construction of several new facilities for U.S. Marine and Navy personnel.

Following his honorable discharge from the Marine Corps, he served as the operations manager for a residential construction company, to create the company’s strategic plans to build homes and generate a highly-skilled workforce using local labor forces. Among other responsibilities, President Nez and Vice President Lizer have tasked Zwierlein with implementing housing manufacturing facilities on the Navajo Nation to construct and deliver homes for Navajo veterans and others.

**Financial Assistance for Navajo Veterans**

President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer commend the 24th Navajo Nation Council’s Health, Education, and Human Services Committee for their approval of legislation on Jan. 8, 2020 that will allow the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration to develop new internal policies to make the financial assistance process more efficient and easier for Navajo veterans across the Navajo Nation.

Since coming on board as the executive director for the Navajo Veterans Administration, James Zwierlein has focused on improving policies to help our veterans. This legislation creates a path for the Veterans Administration to change financial assistance procedures and to make it available at the agency level. The Nez-Lizer Administration is very thankful for the support of the Health, Education, and Human Services Committee. The Navajo people want us to work together to reduce and eliminate red tape and to restructure internal processes and that’s what we did with this legislation.

Legislation No. 0375-19 sponsored by Council Delegate Paul Begay, amends the financial assistance policy for the Navajo Nation Veterans Trust Fund by removing language that often led to setbacks in obtaining financial assistance for veterans. Director Zwierlein said his office will now be able to revise the procedures to better streamline the process and make it more flexible, efficient, and accessible at the agency level.

**Navajo Code Talker Museum**

President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer continue to work with divisions and programs to ensure that a Navajo veterans center and a Navajo Code Talker Museum are constructed on the Navajo Nation. In January 2019, President Nez and Vice President Lizer joined the late New Mexico Sen. John Pinto to tes-





tify before the New Mexico Senate Indian and Cultural Affairs Committee in support for Sen. Pinto’s bill to secure \$1 million to assist with the design and construction of the museum and veterans center.

Based on the advocacy of Sen. Pinto, the Nez-Lizer Administration, and the 24th Navajo Nation Council, the Nation secured the \$1 million appropriation in late February. President Nez and Vice President Lizer said the effort would not have been successful without the late Sen. Pinto and offered their appreciation to his office as well as the other state legislators that supported the initiative. The Nez-Lizer Administration continues to work with the divisions and programs on the design of the project.

**Public Safety Highlights**

**Class 53 and Class 54**

Within the last year, the Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety under the leadership of Executive Director Jesse Delmar and Navajo Police Chief Phillip Francisco, have added 35 new police officers to serve and protect our communities across the Navajo Nation.

In February 2019, the Navajo Nation Police Academy in Chinle, Ariz. graduated 16 young and determined Navajo Police Officer recruits, who received their Navajo Nation police badge during a graduation ceremony at Chinle Community

Center in Chinle, Ariz. In November, the Police Academy graduated an additional 19 recruits.

The Navajo Police Academy has prepared three classes of recruits within two-years for careers in law enforcement under an environment that upholds respect, self-discipline, accountability, academic achievement, integrity, and professionalism. The graduates of Class 54 completed challenging training in academics, physical and mental conditioning, communications, firearms, and others. The academy also integrates Diné Fundamental Law, as well as state and federal laws, into the training curriculum.

**Criminal Investigations Unit**

For over 20 years, the Navajo Nation was without an executive director for its Criminal Investigations Unit under the Division of Public Safety. On Sept. 17, 2019, this changed when 32-year law enforcement veteran Michael Henderson was sworn-in as the new director for the Criminal Investigations Unit.

Henderson served with Navajo law enforcement in many capacities including as a patrol officer, criminal investigator, sergeant, and captain. He received his peace officer certification in 1988 and obtained a Bachelors in Criminal Justice from Walden University. Henderson is also a U.S. Navy Reserve, and previously served in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

Navajo Nation District Court Judge Cynthia Thompson administered the oath of office followed by the pinning of the badge conducted by his wife, Majorie Henderson. During his remarks, Director Henderson provided an overview of the development and significance the Navajo Police Department dating back to the signing of the Navajo Treaty of 1868 with the federal government.

Henderson said that his goals as the Criminal Investigations Director include instilling discipline, honor, order, and respect to the department using the knowledge he has gained over his 30 years of law enforcement experience. Additionally, he requested the support and cooperation of current employees in the Criminal Investigations Unit to “step up” and help him complete tasks and serve the people. He also acknowledged and thanked his family, including his mother who was seated in the audience, for their love and support over the years.

# Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety

**Corrections**

- The NDOC coordinates training for Corrections Sergeants, Officers and some administrative staff to become General Instructors. General Instructors are necessary to do in-house training on any learning block required to meet the 638 training requirements for Corrections personnel. The next step is for these individuals to specialize in various areas which will be coordinated by the individual district Corrections Lieutenants.
- The Division of Public Safety facilities Master Plan was completed after 18 months of work with the district corrections, courts, police and communities that are served by these resources. This facilities master plan is an update to the 2007 Judicial Public Safety Master Plan which has been in effect since its completion in 2007. The new master plan outlines where corrections and police facilities will be located and identified size. The plan identifies the substations, outlines the distance between each location and availability of other services.

**Criminal Investigations**

- In combating gang violence on the Navajo Nation, successful investigations of

three murders, attempted murder, aggravated assaults, carjacking, kidnappings, sexual assaults, and drug trafficking, amongst other crimes gave way to a first RICO conspiracy federal prosecution from the Navajo Nation for which 5 Navajo Police Criminal Investigators were recognized by the United States Attorney’s Office.

- After 20 years of not having a Director, Criminal Investigations received a well qualified 32-year Navajo Police veteran appointed to the position.

**Emergency Management**

- FEMA Disaster Declaration (DR-4436):2019 Winter Storm declaration approved by President Trump for the Navajo Nation.
- Swift Water Rescue Training / Rescue Boat: DEM personnel attended swift rescue training and are now certified.
- IPAWS Memorandum of Agreement with FEMA Renewal: Renewed for another 4 years. We have the ability to sending out emergency alerts.
- Closeout Legacy Disaster 1659-1808:participating Navajo Chapters have been paid out by FEMA disaster funds.



**Emergency Medical Services**

- PERSONNEL: The Department has 5 EMTs that successfully passed the Paramedic course and are now licensed Paramedics. There are currently 3 EMTs that are taking the Paramedic course.
- Hopi EMS initiated the AHCCCS Tribal EMS Workgroup to work on getting tribal EMS entities to receive reimbursements at the CON rates. As a result of these meetings, AHCCCS agreed to increase the reimbursement rates to tribal EMS entities.
- The department ordered Defibrillators for each field office replacing outdated equipment.
- The ability to bid out and order twenty nine (29) new Type I ambulances, at an estimated cost of \$5,000,000.00

**Fire and Rescue Services**

- New plan of operation for the department was completed, approved by appropriate committees to match new training, certification requirement that's always changing and to have the department to accomplished expected goals and mission. New mutual aid agreement was developed to disseminate among neighboring fire services to provide emergency response within the territorial jurisdiction of the Navajo Nation.
- New firefighter recruit's classification was developed. Have hired full time firefighter recruits to process recruits through the fire academy.
- 2% general 2019 wage adjustment were made for all fulltime and firefighter

recruit employees with back pay. Firefighter recruit's salaries were evaluated and adjusted to higher salary grade step with full fringe benefits adjustments. Hired nine (9) fulltime firefighter recruits and three (3) firefighter.

- Evaluating existing Navajo Nation fire stations to remodel, to provide adequate living quarters, space for additional fire apparatus and additional space for equipment.

**Navajo Police**

- 911/Emergency Dispatch: Establish and improve dispatch services. Developing plans to consolidate into a centralized dispatch center. Continue work with contractor to develop Standard Operating Procedures and training curriculums, work on consolidating all emergency services in the Navajo Nation (i.e. DPS, DNR, Head Start, etc.).
- Navajo Nation Peace Officer Standards Training (NNPOST)/Academy: Consistent standards for hiring, training, certification, and decertification were created. Tailored minimum training standards to meet the needs of the Navajo Nation.
- Grants: 1) BIA Highway Safety: Reduce traffic fatalities, traffic complaints. Promote education and compliance and increase prosecution. 2) Navajo E 9-1-1.
- School Resource Program/Safety: To increase school safety and implement prevention programs. Create contracts with school administration to provide funding sources for SRO programs, create working relationships with school administration.

# Navajo Nation Division of Human Resources

**Stabilization of the Division of Human Resources Administration**

Upon arrival, the Division of Human Resources Administration office had two separate office locations within Window Rock, AZ. Under prior administration, the DHR Administration consisted of the Division Director's office and the other being an administrative support office with two staff. Currently, the DHR Admin. office has been consolidated into one location. Since then, the transition has allowed for ongoing teamwork amongst division staff and departments. Moving forward, the Division of Human Resources will continue to be the premier division office with respect to accountability, transparency, and overall empowerment of the Navajo Nation workforce.

**68th Miss Navajo Nation Pageant**

On Tuesday, May 14, 2019, a memorandum was served and per memorandum from the Office of the President & Vice President, oversight for the Office of Miss Navajo Nation is temporarily under the supervision and direction of the Executive Division

Director of Human Resources. As such, our office collaboratively assisted and developed current and future initiatives; including the 68th Miss Navajo Nation Pageant held during the 73rd Navajo Nation Fair. Throughout the planning process, it was adamant that the event take place in one centralized location while including the assistance of the Miss Navajo Nation Council. And so, the Division of Human Resources successfully assisted with the implementation of the event and the crowning of the current Miss Navajo Nation.

**2nd Place at the 51st Western Navajo Fair**

For the first time in its history, the Division of Human Resources collaboratively created a float for the parade of the Western Navajo Fair and won 2nd Place in the Best Business/Organization category. The float design featured the first-ever Navajo emoji, a smiling face with cultural elements such as a tsiiyéél and traditional hat with silver concho embellishments. With the support of all departments within the division, the float reflected the division's commitment to exceptional customer service and outreach to all communities within the Navajo Nation.

**Commitment to Community Engagement**

The Division of Human Resources, administration and all 12 departments, remain committed to community engagement within the Navajo Nation. While in attendance of several events or happenings in and outside of the reservation, our office and departments continue to highlight exceptional customer service, cultural sensitivity, professional development, and employment opportunities on behalf of the Navajo Nation government. For example, the Division of Human Resources has initiated an ongoing Navajo Agency Council Outreach Initiative that includes on-site 10-minute presentations from departments while addressing community concerns that fall within the division and/or department. Overall, the Division of Human Resources continues to implement new initiatives such as the Navajo Agency Council Outreach Initiative and the first-ever Navajo Nation Band Christmas Festival.





# Navajo Nation Division of General Services

## Information Technology

Navajo Nation Department of Information Technology has success fully migrated to a Next Generation Perimeter Defense Appliance for improved Internet Security and will aid the Navajo Nation tremendously in its continued effort to combat the emerging threat the current cybersecurity landscape. DIT now has more visibility in to the current cybersecurity attacks. This improves incident response times and the overall security posture of the Navajo Nation network.

## Employee Housing Program

The Program has completed eleven housing renovations in within the current Program housing stock. Housing renovations include structural replacement, asbestos abatement, replacement of all eletrical wiring, plumbing, flooring and wall insulation and sheetrock.

## Facilities Maintenance

The ADA compliance done by MOB construction is 100% complete; the roofing contract is at 50% complete, there have been multiple delays due to weather; the HVAC unit replacement is at 80%, there have been delays due to manufacturing of the outside units; the Pest control contract is ongoing with no problems; the winterization work order has been completed most of the NN buildings; completed repairs of leaking roof at Alamo district court, during the summer will address more; Facilities has completed its OSHA ten-hour certification training is completed for all the maintenance techs; CPR/1st aid certification for all FMD staff; Chapter projects completed for Tohatchi senior center, Iyanbito senior center and the St. Michaels senior center and the Mexican Springs HVAC system; and Assessment of the Blanding Utah women's shelter building

## Navajo Nation Two Way Radio Frequency Network Expansion

NNTU maintains the Radio Frequency Network that Navajo Nation first responders (police, fire, & EMS) use to communicate with their two way radio equipment (portable and mobile radios). After much work, the Navajo Nation Radio Frequency Network expanded and activated another site, BIA Forestry Narbona Pass. The site is located on the New Mexico Hwy 134 at 9,387 foot elevation at the Narbona Pass. With this installation, it increased the radio frequency coverage to the following lo-

cations: Naschitti, Crystal, Sanostee, Burnham Chapter and US 471 from NAPI to Crownpoint, NM, and Huerfano, NM area. An added benefit was we were able to eliminate the lease payment to Frontier for using their Newcomb tower. The BIA Forestry Narbona Pass site has better radio coverage than the Frontier Newcomb tower.

## Insurance Services

The Insurance Commission approved resolution to approved the "2020 Premium Rates and Benefit Modification" for the insurance benefit plans for all Navajo Nation insurance participants effective January 1, 2020. Employee Benefits staff conducted 68 orientation sessions for the Navajo Nation enterprises and certified chapters and served 43,528 clients; Processed 27,465 Claims; Paid \$3,944,256 Claims; and paid \$7,582,584 in Premiums.

## Transit Systems

Successful Drug & Alcohol Audit for both NMDOT and FTA in October 2019; Repairs completed for Bus 3060 in December 2019; Advertisement of seven of 13 vacant positions; and Completed award for ADOT Bus procurement in November 2019.

## Fleet Management

All five (5) agency Fleet Service Centers had annual school bus inspections by ASH, Inc.; All five (5) agency Fleet Service Centers and Kayenta Fuel Station at Public Safety Facility had new Fuel Data System (FDS) installed, and new driver HID and key FOB for vehicles were issued; All five (5) agency Fleet Service Centers and Kayenta Fuel Station passed their annual AST & UST line and sump buckets testing by NEPA; Transported five (5) non-operational transit buses from Navajo Transit's parking lot to their old facility next to Property Management in Ft. Defiance; and 274 new vehicles were purchase from GM and Ford dealerships.

## Records Managment

The Records Management Department is continuing to work with DIT, Konica Minolta and AZ Digital to convert Hard Coy to Digital and to upload into the Doc Records System. Which is a document digitizing software being suitable to meet the Records Management needs for storing. The software provides document management, organization, categorization, indexing, and search/retrieve information capabilities.

# Navajo Nation Division of Economic Development

## Crownpoint Hotel Groundbreaking

The ground breaking and additional support to the Crownpoint Hotel Project.

## Rhino Health Glove Manufaturing Company

The additional support to move the project forward with the funding from the NN. Meeting and development of a process to execute the project with followup meetings with council on their support through the various committees.

## Plan of Operation

The approval of RDC Oversight the DED Plan of Operation with implementations of the Nahata' Plan. Providing an update that has not happen since 2007. New office creation for Trademark Registration and Business License units within DED.

## Entrepreneur Roundtable Discussions

Open discussions hosted by DED to coordinate local discussions with various groups of business owners in the private industry. Take into account their feedback for change of regulations and laws to make it easier to do business with the Navajo Nation.





# Navajo Nation Department of Health

## Dilkon Health Center

The Dilkon Health Center Steering Committee worked to have a new health facility constructed in Dilkon for over 40 years. Through the 2019, Federal Appropriation process enacted by President Donald Trump the Dilkon project received \$214.8 million to complete design, construction, and housing. Upon the completion of the architectural and engineering design of the health center, the preliminary construction activities was initiated for the project. Flintco Construction of Oklahoma City, OK., (Contractor) mobilized onsite on August 12, 2019. Since that time, the contractor began earthwork to compact the ground to lay the foundation for the facility. This process was completed recently and now trenching and concrete pouring for the footing and stem walls are in progress. Right-of-way studies for the high power utility line and water line are near completion. This project is the first health facility project on the Navajo Nation to be designed and constructed through a Tribal Acquisition. The Winslow Indian Health Care Corporation is the lead for the project. The facility will be a 162,000 square feet facility equipped to deliver primary, emergency, ancillary, audiology, eye, and inpatient acute care with 12 swing beds. It will also include a cafeteria for patients, staff, and public. In addition, 109 staff quarters will be built adjacent to the facility. The projected date for completion is December 2021.

## New exhibit titled “Changing Winds: Public Health and Indian Country”

The Navajo Epidemiology Center (NEC) worked closely with the David J. Sencer CDC Museum on a new exhibit titled “Changing Winds: Public Health and Indian Country.” Staff at the NEC worked with the museum curator over the past 1.5 years to ensure the accuracy and appropriateness of the images/information depicting the contributions of American Indians and Alaska Natives to public health. Devin Yazzie, Epidemiologist at NEC stated that the, “Navajo Nation is one of the tribes featured in the exhibits, specifically about the evolution and encapsulation of our Hantavirus work from the 1993 outbreak to currently. To my knowledge, it is the first exhibit of its kind to do so. More than anything else, we believe that the exhibit shows visitors an often-overlooked aspect of public health in the U.S., and of the many tribes and tribal members who have made long-lasting contributions to keeping us healthy.” Contributed by Delores Becenti, Navajo Department of Health with photo courtesy of CDC

## Emergency Response

The CHR is a frontline public health worker who is a trusted member of and/or has an unusually close understanding of the communities served. The program acts as a liaison/advocate for Navajo clients in upholding Navajo traditions, value systems, cultural beliefs to meet the health care need of the communities. The CHR Program administers health services in remote and desolate areas throughout the Navajo Nation. The Community Health Workers play a critical role in the health care delivery system and are called upon when there is a Navajo Nation emergency declaration. The CHR Program assisted and participated in the 2019 Winter Storm Navajo Nation emergency declaration. Community Health Workers displayed resiliency in responding to 2,119 referrals during the emergency declaration, this was made possible with working over 14 hours a day or until the client(s) received assistance. CHRs who are trained to respond to emergency incidents, once again responded to the winter snow storm and the impact of the snowstorm. Many communities received more snow than years prior making human traffic come to almost a halt. Many clientele were not ready for the abundant moisture making mobility difficult for clients and/or community members to make medical appointments, while some were without firewood, water, food and medicine. Realizing clients or community members at home



were without basic necessity, the CHRs took on the challenge and were determined to deliver food, wood, hay, coal, and medication to High Risk Clients who were unable to access public roads. In some cases, the CHRs provided transportation to local hospitals and grocery stores for people in dire need. In addition, the CHRs conducted welfare checks based on community referrals. Without the CHRs, many of the clientele would not have been visited.

## Health Screenings

### Screening: Breast Cancer Screening in To'Hajiilee

The Navajo Breast & Cervical Cancer Prevention Program has been providing services in the To'Hajiilee community since 2016. This year, services provided included public education and mobile mammography navigation to the 50 women screened. This was made possible through a partnership with Canoncito Health Center, whom we have a multi-year agreement with. Our public education cumulated with a breast cancer awareness walk in October where our staff were acknowledged as a valuable resource on cancer prevention. Initially, this effort began with a community member reaching out to our program to be involved in their Spring Break Youth/Elder event. This grew into a partnership with the Health Center to reach out and educate the older population through effective use of the Navajo language and linked them to screening services that were available. This opportunity aligns with our goal to provide services to underserved women. During mobile mammography visits, the program staff provided client services such as: translation, client in-take, and one-on-one education. One client stated, she appreciated the program's efforts in supporting and educating her through the process because before “I didn't know why I should come, but now I know” (spoken in the Navajo language). Our program continues to work to advance cancer prevention efforts throughout the Navajo Nation and surrounding areas.

### Screening: HIV Screening across the Navajo Nation

The Health Education and HIV Prevention Program has 15 certified staff to perform HIV screening test in 26 Navajo community outreach and events, as a public health intervention for knowledge of serostatus, prevention services, linkage to care (referral services) for early confirmatory diagnosis and access to treatment. From 2017 to 2019 (3rd quarter) 262 annual screening were completed. There was an increase of screenings in August due to local fairs. In 2018, 422 persons volunteered for screening, males accounted for 52% of those screened, 47% were female and less than 1% were identified as Transgender; median age was at 36.3 years. 234 persons noted they had no previous HIV test, an indicator now these folks know their HIV status.



# Navajo Nation Department of Justice

## Office of the Prosecutor Grant Awards

In April 2019, the Department of Justice’s Office of the Prosecutor (OTP) was awarded two significant grants this year: 1) \$1,981,346.00 Office of Victims of Crime (OVC) Tribal Set-Aside and 2) \$537,432.00 from the Tiwahe Foundation (through the Bureau of Indian Affairs). The OVC Tribal Set-Aside grant will be used to hire seven (7) tribal Victim Advocates. OTP has been providing informal victim services, and these new positions will empower OTP to provide comprehensive and formal services in Shiprock/Aneth, Kayenta, Chinle/Dzil Yijiin, Tuba City, Crownpoint, Window Rock/Dilkon and Ramah/Alamo/To’hajilee. The Tiwahe grant will be used to hire four (4) attorneys and one Program and & Project Specialist. The attorneys will be assigned to juvenile justice matters, dedicated solely to children’s cases including dependency, delinquency and children in need of supervision cases.

## Creation of the Chapter Unit

On August 5, 2019, DOJ’s newest unit, the Chapter Unit began operation. The Chapter Unit is led by Assistant Attorney General Rodgerick Begay. Under Title II, Section 1964(B), the Attorney General’s office is empowered to render “legal services to the Navajo Nation government, including its Chapters, branches and entities, subject to available resources ...” The purpose of the Chapter Unit is to provide expedited direct legal services to the Nation’s 110 chapters, with an emphasis on capital projects and employment matters. The Chapter Unit will be led by Assistant Attorney General Rodgerick Begay and will be based in Window Rock. DOJ hopes to expand the Chapter Unit in the near future with additional legal staff in order to meet the many and diverse needs of its chapter clients.

## Navajo-Hopi Legal Services Program fully staffed

As of November 12, 2019, DOJ’s Navajo-Hopi Legal Services Program (NHLSP) in Tuba City is fully-staffed. DOJ has hired Susan Eastman to return as Principal Attorney and Director of the Navajo-Hopi Legal Services Program effective November 12, 2019. Ms. Eastman previously worked as an attorney and Director of NHLSP from June 2009 through October 2018. With the restoration of funding of NHLSP by the Navajo Nation Council and Attorney General McPaul’s commitment to maintaining operation of NHLSP consistent with the statutory charge of DOJ, Ms. Eastman and staff will resume handling federal appeals of denials of relocation benefits on behalf of Navajo tribal members. NHLSP will also be fully-staffed to assist Navajos individuals who have already been determined eligible for relocation benefits to ensure they

receive the full benefits for which they have fought for so long to obtain through the lengthy application and appeal process with the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation.

## DOJ Donates Quilts and to Elders for the Holiday



On December 19, DOJ spread holiday cheer among some well deserving elders after DOJ employees contributed to purchase hand-made quilts made by Navajo seamstresses and donated to 70 elders from the Twin Lakes, Rock Springs, and Coyote Canyon chapters. Council Delegate Pernell Halona accompanied DOJ staff to the Twin Lakes Senior Center where each elder selected his or her own quilt and also received a “goodie bag” containing apples, oranges, peanuts, and candy. DOJ staff and Delegate Halona also ate lunch with the elders, who appreciated the gifts as well as the company. Quilts were set aside for homebound elders unable to attend the event. DOJ appreciated the opportunity to be of service to the elders and thanks the Department of Aging and the Twin Lakes Senior Center staff member, Everette Jole, for their assistance in arranging this special holiday event for the elders.

# Navajo Nation Division of Transportation

## N7119/N481 project

Completion of the Littlewater, NM FHWA project N7119/N481 project. This project’s main phases of the Scope of Work was completed with Navajo DOT staff versus bidding out the construction portion of the work to a private construction firm. Navajo DOT saved substantially by completing this project in-house, construction for this particular project was completed with \$2.2M of FHWA funds.

## Continuation of 4 major FHWA new construction projects

The continuation of 4 major FHWA new construction projects, namely N251 - Cottonwood/Tselani, N27 & N105 - Nazlini to Chinle, N6330 & N6331 - Kaibeto, and N12 - Tsaille/Wheatfields Lake. The combined approximate construction value of these 4 projects is \$83M.

## Minor related improvement projects

The completion of other minor related improvement projects such as: Beshbito N9056, Ganado N151, Ft. Defiance N9073, Navajo, NM two community streets, Coppermine Chapter Access Road N6210, Kaibeto N21, Shiprock N546, Ojo Encino N471, Window Rock Elementary access road, and Low Mountain N8059. These 10 projects relevant Scope of Work varied from: culvert(s) installation, subgrade preparation, gravel lay down, applying of soil stabilizer, and/or chip sealing.

## Continuation of minor maintenance

The continuation of minor maintenance and quarterly earth road blading within all 5 agencies. Approximately 5,500 miles of road blading on a quarterly basis has been completed within 2019.



# Navajo Nation Division of Social Services

## Education

Department for Self Reliance (DSR)

- Four participants received certificate in Trucking.
- Two participants received certificate in Heavy Equipment Operation.
- Partnership developed with Utah State University Blanding.
- Two participants received permanent employment.
- Two participants received temporary employment.
- Collaborate with local organization to expand jobs for Navajo people. (South-west Indian Foundation, Life Sharing Inc., Bashas, and Navajo Tribal Utility Authority).
- 30 youth participants received 6-weeks employment.
- Partnership developed with Chinle Chapter House.

## Treatment

- Navajo Treatment for Children and Their Families (NTCCF) continues to provide treatment services to the high risk and at-risk children and families within the Department of Family Services Child Welfare system. In complementing the Western treatment with Traditional Services, it has resulted in an increase in successful treatment outcomes for children and families.

## Outreach

- The NTCCF continues to implement the Methamphetamines and Suicide Prevention Initiative Project. The NTCCF-MSPI continues to provide prevention presentations and awareness of meth abuse and suicide prevention thorough media campaigns and live public radio forums. The radio forums and public service announcements provided by the project are able to reach the rural area listeners. KTNN is also heard on the World Wide Web and across the world and still room for growth.

## Contract

- Navajo Treatment for Children and Their Families - Partnership Developed with

the Department of Health and Human Services and Navajo Area Indian Health Services by signing entered into a 4 years contract.

- Navajo Children and Family Services - Approval of three Intergovernmental Agreement and Completion of signing of state agreement.

## Services

- Navajo Children and Family Services - Collaboration with Arizona, New Mexico and Utah Directors and Tribal Liaison.
- Developmental Disability Program - Completing 5 home modifications in Chinle, Many Farms, Rock Point, Red Mesa, and Kayenta. Completing 5 Augmentative Communication devices for members who have limited to non-verbal.
- Department of Family Services had 31 families that completed their plans in 2019. This includes 47 children that deemed dependent children by the Navajo Nation Courts that returned home to their parents.
- In June and July 2019, Chinle Child Care Fund (CCDF) Region, Crownpoint CCDF Region, Fort Defiance CCDF Region and Shiprock Region held an annual celebration by promoting 68 prekindergarten children to advance them to Kindergarten.
- Child Care Development Fund - 739 children received child care services and 462 families eligible for child care assistance.

## Building

- The Department of Family Services acquired the Gentle Iron Hawk Shelter in Blanding, UT to aide in the temporary shelter of victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking.
- On June 21, 2019, Lillian’s Playhouse was dedicated to serve as daycare centers in Tuba City, AZ.

# Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources

## Navajo Partitioned Lands (NPL) Livestock Permits

The Navajo Nation’s 23rd Executive and Legislative Branches had approved for the BIA to issue Livestock Permits to stockmen of the Navajo Partition Lands (NPL). The issuance of livestock permits to NPL residents began during the Navajo Nation 24th Executive and Legislative administration. Each re-issued permit would allow only 10 Sheep Units due to overgrazed ranges but subject to increase with grazing rehabilitation. Stockmen of NPL objected to the allowed 10 Sheep Units as did the Navajo Division of Natural Resources. The Navajo Division of Natural Resources sought compromise of Sheep Unit numbers by the establishment of supplemental hay grounds by the Navajo Agriculture Department. Previously, the Navajo Department of Agriculture’s only role regarding agriculture was livestock numbers regulation. The Navajo Department of Agriculture is now mandated to establish an Agronomy section to establish hay grounds for supplemental feeding and stimulating the local Navajo economy. Currently, the BIA has now delayed their issuance of grazing permits under the 10 Sheep Unit policy.

## Navajo Nation Energy

The Navajo Division of Natural Resources, with OPVP, other Division Directors of the

Hayookkal Work Group, upon the closure of the Navajo Generating Station, has successfully withstood aggressive propositions from Navajo Enterprises and non-Navajo entities involved in energy for use of the Navajo Nation’s assigned 500MW’s. The Legislative Branch and the Executive Branches of the Navajo Nation Government successfully administrated the 1.9 million dollar payment to the Bureau of Reclamation deadline ensuring the Navajo Nation to administrate financially its own investment of the 500MW.

## Community Outreach

The Navajo Nation President mandates that all Division Directors of the Executive Branch travel to communities throughout Navajo lands and meet the people first-hand, establishing positive relationships while answering and meeting the needs of the Navajo people.

## Navajo Nation Peace Officer Standards and Training

The Navajo Division of Natural Resources drafted the original regulations and assisted with revisions of the Navajo Nation Peace Officer Standards and Training (NN-POST) commission rules and regulations for certification to obtain a Navajo Nation criminal law enforcement commission.



# Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency

## General

Successfully advocated for increased funding from USEPA, which was answered in the federal government’s recent \$1.4 trillion spending bill wherein USEPA was awarded a \$300 million increase to their budget with a specific \$115 million increase to state and tribal assistance grants. In light if this, will continue to push USEPA Region 9 for as much of this pool as we can.

## Air Quality

- On November 25, 2019, the NNEPA submitted comments on USEPA’s September 24, 2019 proposal titled, “Oil and Natural Gas Sector: Emission Standards for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources Reconsideration” (Proposed Rule).
- The NNEPA objected to: (1) the USEPA proposal to Exclude Transmission, Pipelines, and Storage from the Oil and Natural Gas Source Category; (2) the Proposal to Revoke the New Source Performance Standards for Methane Emissions from the Oil and Gas Sector. In its objections, the NNEPA stated that: (1) the Proposed Rule will result in increased emissions that harm the Navajo Nation and the general public; (2) the Proposed Rule will result in increased emissions that cause climate change and disproportionately harm the Navajo Nation; (3) the Proposed Rule will result in increased emissions that harm air quality and public health.
- The NNEPA urged the USEPA to uphold the current requirements. The 2016 New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) rule is effective in requiring established practices and technologies to reduce emissions from new sources and to protect the public health. Based on the 2016 NSPS, USEPA should adopt protective standards for existing sources in the oil and natural gas sector. At the very least, the Navajo Nation requests that USEPA fulfill its basic obligations, which at a minimum require an analysis of the proposal’s impacts to the United States and Indian tribes, an extension of the public comment period in order to properly consider and discuss these impacts, and direct, government-to-government consultation between the Navajo Nation and EPA at the highest levels.

## Superfund (Uranium Clean-up)

- Successfully negotiated for additional abandoned uranium mine sites and 2 water studies to be included as part of the Phase 2 RSE Trust Agreement. This is currently at USDOJ for final signature. Announcements to be made soon.
- Successfully negotiated for the use of drone technology to assess the Tommy James abandoned uranium mine site in Cove, AZ, which USEPA deemed as no further action because of access difficulties.

- Successfully negotiated to have additional homes addressed for CSP identification.
- Successfully hired new technical staff in building internal capacity, with many more to come.
- Successfully submitted a request for funding to USEPA to begin assessment of the former Navajo Forestry Products Industry site in Navajo, NM, as we continually work towards clean-up of the site.

## Water Quality

- Drafted substantial comments and advocated in Washington DC on proposed rule changes to WOTUS and 401 that would negatively impact the Navajo Nation.
- Played a major role in the Navajo Nation being awarded \$2,550,000 under the WIIN Act:
- As a direct result of the August 5, 2017 Gold King Mine spill into the Animas and San Juan Rivers, Congress authorized the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act in December 2016 to development and implement long-term water quality monitoring for the San Juan River watershed impacted by the spill. The WIIN Act authorized \$4 million per year from FY 2017 to FY 2021 to affected States and Indian tribes. The Navajo Nation is part of the San Juan Watershed Monitoring Program work group that proposes projects for WIIN Act funding.
- On February 27, 2018, the Navajo Nation was awarded \$366,500 (with no match required) in WIIN Act funds to (1) develop legally defensible livestock watering and agriculture water quality standards for the protection of farmers and livestock owners [\$315,000] and (2) to develop and implement a communication strategy to provide community members with the latest information related to incidents in the watershed and reduce the stigma associated with the livestock and produce grown in the local area [\$50,000].
- On August 28, 2019, the Navajo Nation was awarded \$2,550,000 (with no match required) in WIIN Act funds to (1) conduct a source tracking study that will identify the sources of metals present in the San Juan River that flows through the Navajo Nation [\$2,000,000], (2) conduct a fish tissue study in the San Juan River to monitor current contaminant levels in fish and assess prevailing human health risk associated with fish consumption [\$500,000], and (3) continue work under the communication strategy [\$50,000]. The first two tasks will take at least two years to complete.

# Navajo Nation Division of Community Development

## Administrative Service Center (ASC)

Decreased chronic vacancies at the 110 Chapters from (roughly) 35% to 10% vacancies. Also fulfilled all (8) SPPS positions to serve 110 Chapters.

## Corrective Action Plan Unit

Created/Established the Corrective Action Plan Unit to address Sanction & CAP Chapters for all 110 Chapters. Also created the Chapter Unit Attorney position.

## Capital Projects Management Department

Fully executed 67 Inter-governmental Agreements for H.B 280 for 28 million dollars

with the State of New Mexico.

## Community Housing & Infrastructure Department

Completed Projects “B-15” at 6 projects for 3.7 million dollars. Completed “B-12” at 15 projects for 4.8 million dollars.

## Information Technology Department

Completed assessments for 110 Chapters. IT also participated in establishing the Complete Count Commission for 2020 Census.



# Navajo Nation Telecommunications Regulatory Commission

## Telecommunications Towers

Completion of assessment of all telecommunications towers on the Navajo Nation. This info will be beneficial for accountability on leases.

## Commissioners

Onboarded all Commissioners for NNTRC.

## Lifeline

Invited Universal Service Administrative Company to the Navajo Nation to understand Lifeline issues for New and Renewing customers. With Year of Year of declining Lifeline subscribers, USAC was able to understand out challenges and create solutions.

## FirstNet

Generated Foundation Account Number with AT&T/FirstNet. Establishing this FAN in advance will Navajo Nation ready when FirstNet starts deploying so Public Safety can utilize the service without any delay.

## Wireless Emergency Alerts

Played a supportive role with regional cellular carrier to help them get provisioned with FEMA and Homeland Security to conduct testing with Wireless Emergency Alerts. This will enable the carrier to distribute AMBER, Silver, and all alerts from Wireless Emergency Alerts.

# Navajo Nation Veterans Administration

## Executive Director

The permanent Director has been committed to a six year contract.

## Housing Contract

The SWIF housing contract started under the previous administration has completed 4 of the 10 homes and the veterans are moved in. 5 homes are waiting on power or water connections to be complete, but the veterans have been granted access to their new home. The 10th home had had the foundation started and the home is being built.

## Trust Fund Policy

The trust fund policy is being modified to allow the electronic processing of veteran's requests for financial assistance in order to speed up the time it takes to for veterans to receive their checks.

## Community Outreach

Report major events to the priorities and program achievements. For example, nationwide run & walk, conference to business owners, ribbon cutting events. Do not report routine events, only high level items that relate to public engagement.

# Navajo Nation Washington Office

## National Meetings

Throughout the year, the Navajo Nation Washington Office supported Navajo's involvement and participation in four hearings, three testimonial forums, three public listening sessions and at various National meetings.

## Radiation Exposure Compensation Act

In June, Congressman Ben Ray Luján introduced a bill that would expand benefits under the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) for uranium mine workers. Over two days, several Navajo uranium mine workers along with Delegate Amber Crotty met with twelve (12) members of Congress to support RECA. The Navajo Nation Washington Office was instrumental in organizing this trip.

## Office Staff

The Navajo Nation Washington Office is committed to having a fully staff office to support the Navajo Nation. This year, we hired an Administrative Assistant, Serena Steiner, and two Government and Legislative Affairs Associates, James Mowdy and Rani Wiliams.

## Energy

With the changes in the energy landscape and closure of coal mines across the country, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer created the Hayoolkaal Work Group to advise and assist on energy related matters. In 2019, the Navajo Nation Washington Office, as a member to the Hayoolkaal Work Group,



participated in several meetings to make critical decisions concerning the livelihood of the Navajo people and our desire to remain an energy leader into the future.



## Navajo THAW

- The Nez-Lizer Administration is developing a comprehensive plan to address the impacts of the Former Bennett Freeze, now known as the Navajo Thaw Implementation Plan. The effort is well underway under the leadership of Robert K. Black, Jr. of the Navajo- Hopi Land Commission Office and the oversight of the Navajo-Hopi Land Commission.
- The purpose is to develop nine Chapter Recovery Plans and one Navajo Thaw Regional Plan to address the impacts of the Bennett Freeze. The Community and Economic Development Plans will create a sustainable economic future while providing funding for priority housing, public facilities, economic development, community development and infrastructure projects.
- The project is off to a very fast start with strong engagement with the Chapters. The table below provides the status for all nine Chapters. The intensive two-day, 12-hour sessions known as Plan Week have been completed for eight of the nine Chapters, resulting in draft plans.
- All current local and regional plans are being built into the planning process. In addition to the plans, hundreds of photos and videos will help tell the story of how the Navajo Thaw will finally address the injustice that has taken place since 1966.
- A Regional Summit will be held this winter leading to an approach to Congress to secure the funding needed to fully address the impacts resulting from the 40-year freeze on development activity in the nine-Chapter region.

## Bisti Solar Project

- This transformation for the Navajo Nation’s clean energy push has been represented by the 2019 Hooyalkaal Proclamation (Navajo Sunrise Proclamation) to create a new economic energy vision for the Navajo People and its communities. By doing so, the Bisti Solar Photovoltaics (PV) and Storage Project serves to position the Nation to be a key energy trading partner.
- The Bisti Solar is a 100-megawatt Solar PV with Storage that potentially serve as Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM) resource replacement for the San Juan Generation Station (SJSJ) pursuant to the 2019 Energy Transition Act. PNM is preparing for the closure of SJSJ in 2022 and planning for the state’s energy industry future to change to be 100% emission free by 2040. PNM is already in position to be at 70% by 2032 with the closures of SJSJ and the FCPP by 2032. The remaining 30% will be achieved by adding cleaner resource alternatives and market purchases for additional demand.
- In the past several months, the Bisti Solar Team has achieved several project development milestones. These milestones are based on a framework of experiences, decision points and market ability. A key milestone was selecting NextEra as the Solar Developer for Bisti Solar. NextEra is a Fortune 200 energy company with over 14,000 employees and generates over \$17 billion in annual revenues. NextEra is America’s largest capital investors in the renewable infrastructure and world’s largest producer of wind and solar energy. NextEra has developed more than 45,500 megawatts of net generating capacity worldwide. Another key milestone are the feasibility studies conducted by Tetra Tech and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) of the basic elements for a successful renewable energy project. These basic elements include the selection of project team, identifying project sites, determining the energy load and demand, con-

firmed the renewable energy resource, reviewing electric cost data and regulations, identifying transmission and interconnection requirements and evaluating the energy market potential for renewable sales. Additional project milestones include supporting and approving resolutions received from the Huerfano Chapter and Navajo Agricultural Products Industry (NAPI).

- As the project continues to move forward, the Bisti Solar Team will continue with the site control of 662 acres of land in the Huerfano Chapter community and start the Interconnection System Impact Study with PNM. In parallel with the study, the Bisti Solar Team will continue the Power Purchase Agreement discussions with several potential customers in the region.

## Technical Amendments

- Padres Mesa - The NHLC decided that they were going to remove Padres Mesa from the Technical Amendment Bill. Their original position was that it was going to remain within ONHIR until it closes then it would go somewhere within Navajo. The rationale was that if ONHIR was to close there would need a separate bill that would address ONHIR’s functions. This would include things like land management, home warranties, etc. The NHLC decided that Padres Mesa could be part of a closure bill if ONHIR closes and did not need to be a technical amendment. NHLC are going to fight to keep ONHIR open so it also makes sense that they are not actively removing ONHIR’s functions. NHLC also stated that they are going to start planning so that the Nation has a place to put Padres Mesa if ONHIR closes.
- Accommodation Agreements - This was added back to the technical amendments. There is uncertainty over what the actual people on the ground want but it was decided to add back in the language allowing accommodation agreement signers to relinquish those agreements and receive relocation benefits.
- Rehabilitation Trust Fund - Instead of simply forgiving the past debt, the NHLC also wanted it reauthorized.
- Reselection due to Survey Error - The NHLC did not want to deselect any lands due to an error from the government. Their position is that they should be able to select additional lands that were over selected due to the error.

## Diné Relocatee Fund Policy

- On September 28th 2019, the Navajo-Hopi Land Commission Office entered into a contract with a Consultant to develop a policy for the Diné Relocatee Fund Policy to administer and implement the use of funds adopted by the Navajo-Hopi Land Commission pursuant to HLCAJ -2-19. The Diné Relocatee Fund Policy is to provide financial assistance to eligible Navajo families who relocated from the Hopi Partition Land who were adversely impacted by the Navajo-Hopi Land Settlement Act of 1974, Public Law 93-531 (as amended).
- The Diné Relocatee Administrative Policy and Procedures and a Self-Monitoring Policy were completed by the consultant.
- Both policies and applicable forms are in the process of being forward to the Navajo Nation Department of Justice for legal review; and thereafter, it will be presented to the Navajo-Hopi Land Commission for final approval.



# Navajo Nation Department of Diné Education

## Office of Educational Research & Statistics (OERS)

OERS completed the Oral Navajo Language Test-Standards Base Assessment (ONLT-SBA) data analysis. The ONLT-SBA is the first ever official norm reference language assessment test measuring the fluency of our Navajo student with 18 school participants. Public, Grant and BIE schools participated through Memorandums of Agreement (MOA) with the Office of Standards, Curriculum, Assessment and Development (OSCAD). The overall ONLT-SBA assessment showed that of the 688 participating students: 35% (241) were Beginning, 51% (350) were Emerging, 12% (83) were Developing, 0% Capable, and 2% (14) were Mastery. The 688 students is only 4.9% of a total of 33,580 (SY17-18) students attending schools ON the Navajo Nation. As of 2017, there were 7,600 Navajo-only speakers and over 171,000 fluent speakers worldwide, according to “Ethonologue: Languages of the World,” it’s considered at risk.

## NEIS Accountability Development:

Dell EMC is engaged in a collaborative project with DODE to help build consensus across the Navajo Nation, Department of Dine Education organization and develop a shared vision and strategy for a Student Information Accountability System driven by data analytics that can serve as a foundation for certification of DODE as a State Education Agency (SEA) and improve the educational services delivery and education performance of the student of Navajo Nation.

## Office of Diné Accountability and Compliance

Reauthorization of 10 Grant Schools during the months of June and December 2019.

## Office of Diné Youth

The Office of Dine YOUTH is the Crownpoint YOUTH Complex. The MOU is in the process of obtaining signatures, the bidding process will be taken place soon and moving forward, the project to begin in March or April 2020.

## Office of Standards, Curriculum and Assessment Development

OSCAD developed the Phase II - Oral Navajo Language & Culture-Test-Standardized Based Assessment (ONLC-T-SBA) for grades 4th, 8th, 12th to assess students across the Navajo Nation and public schools with a MOA with the Navajo Nation for cultural knowledge, fluency, and knowledge of the Diné Content Standards. This assessment will provide data to build a report card for Grant schools. The data will meet Phase II of DSAP with 20% of the Navajo language and culture area.

OSCAD in a coordinated effort with OERS completed the ONLC-T-SBA schools’ profile report. These reports will be sent to all 18 grant and public schools that participated in the administration of the assessment in spring 2019.

## Navajo Nation Library

The ONEO Oral History Collection is in the process of getting digitized by Airshow Mastering – Boulder, Colorado. The Navajo Nation Council allocated \$190,650 in supplemental funds to digitize this collection. Shiprock Agency will be the last agency to be digitized.

## Office of Diné School Improvement

The Diné School Accountability Plan (DSAP) Phase 1 has been completed and submitted to the U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Interior for peer Review. On September 6, 2019 we meet with U.S. Department of Education Ms. Betsy DeVos on our submission of DSAP Phase 1. In order to begin DSAP Phase 1 implementation, and move to DSAP of Phase 2, the Secretaries of Education and Interior have to approve DSAP 1. DSAP Phase 1 represents the school improvement initiatives for the Navajo Nation to meet the federal requirements of the Every Stu-



dent Succeeds Act embedded in Title 1 Part A and B. Title 1 Part A allows the Navajo Nation to design a comprehensive school improvement plan for all Bureau of Indian Education funded schools on the Navajo Nation. Title 1 Part B allows the Navajo Nation to design an immediate school improvement plan for the lowest 5% of BIE funded schools on the Navajo Nation. The Navajo Nation school improvement plan is built on the Dine Learning parameters of Nitsah hakees, Nahat’a, lina, and Sihasin.

## JOM Accomplishments

All the 27 subcontractors were provided with opportunities to apply for “one time supplemental funding” and 10-12 subcontractors applied and were given one-time funds for a special project. As well as fiscal and majority of them were found to be in compliance with their contracts. Public hearings were conducted regarding the Indian Education Committee (IEC) membership policies & procedures. The finalized documents were approved by the standing committee. IEC members will now work with an IEC policy.

## Office of Special Education Rehabilitation Services

- The Navajo Nation Advisory Council on Disability (NNACOD) under the auspices of OSERS hosted the Nihí’sha’ (“What About Us?”) Campaign Walk on October 21, 2019. OSERS staff, community members, individuals with disabilities, service providers, organizations, council delegates and the Navajo Nation President participated in the walk to the Navajo Nation Council Chambers to support, advocate and raise awareness on issues and needs affecting our Navajo individuals with disabilities.
- Project I-LAUNCH: Completion of a Community Readiness and Needs Assessment, Implementation Plan and Evaluation Plan for Project Indigenous LAUNCH (Linking Actions to Unmet Needs of Children’s Health). These milestones set the roadmap for goals and objectives to be accomplished in the next 4 years.

## Cognia Navajo Nation (Formerly AdvancED Navajo Nation)

As a result of the merger of AdvancED and Measured Progress, the two organizations changed their name to Cognia on the 1st of July 2019. Cognia offers accreditation and certification services within a framework of continuous improvement to schools. Cognia Navajo Nation, the affiliate office between Cognia and the Navajo Nation, has enhanced its accreditation and school improvement services to schools within the boundaries of the Navajo Nation. Utilizing the enhanced Cognia school improvement tools, 22 schools completed their Engagement Reviews, fifteen completed a Monitoring Review and one school district completed a Readiness Review.

## Office of Navajo Nation Scholarship & Financial Assistance

Approximately 6,598 students awarded and 6,671 denied students.



# Diné Uranium Remediation Advisory Commission

## Cultural Working Group

The Uranium Commission Cultural Working Group met monthly to identify ecological receptors of significant cultural value for risk assessment. The lists of cultural and biological receptors will be submitted to the Tetra Tech Risk Assessors through the NNEPA and USEPA for their use in risk assessment to protect humans and the environment from contaminants.

## Waste Disposal Methods and Locating Potential Disposal Sites

The Uranium Commission Technical Working Group met monthly to conduct a technical study of waste disposal and develop a draft policy on Waste Disposal Methods and Locating Potential Disposal Sites. The Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Diné Uranium Advisory Commission and Dr. Clifford Anderson, PhD, PE, RLS for certain professional engineering and technical services was approved by the Uranium Commission, so Dr. Anderson will assist the Commission and Technical Working Group with the study. The Technical Working Group members include officials from Navajo EPA, USEPA, Uranium Commission, Technical Advisor to the Uranium Commission, Navajo Land Department, BIA Realty, and Navajo AML. There may be other experts to assist the Technical Working Group. The draft policy will be submitted to the Navajo Nation President and Council for their review and consideration.

## Cultural Sensitivity Training

The Cultural Working Group hosted a one-day training on cultural sensitivity for USEPA contractors and Potential Responsible Parties and various federal agencies. Presentations were made by Navajo Fish & Wildlife and Historic Preservation Office,

Navajo Scientist on Traditional Ecological Knowledge, Navajo Geobotanist, Navajo DOJ on Settlement Agreements, Navajo Geologist on Parallel between Western Geology and Navajo Emergence, Navajo Archaeologist on Cultural Resources and Navajo Protocols in fieldwork. The Working Group members include officials from Navajo EPA, USEPA, Uranium Commission, Navajo Geobotanist, NHPD, NDOJ, Uranium Commission, and Traditional Practitioner.

## Commission Meetings and Tours

- The Plan of Operations calls for a total of six meetings in 2019. Meetings were held at Nahata Dził Chapter House, Navajo Technical University, Tuba City Chapter House, Aneth Chapter House, Chilchinbito Chapter House, Kayenta Township. The Uranium Commission attended a training session on the Removal Site Evaluation and general overview of the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis portion of the Superfund Process. The Commission also attended a work session with UNM Bureau of Business & Economic Research on Economic Impact Analysis, Identification of Potential Future Economic Opportunities Related to Cleanup, Workforce Gap Analysis and Workforce opportunities.
- The Uranium Commission went on a tour of the Ambrosia Lake and surrounding area in New Mexico, Section 32/33 mine site, Haystack mine site, Poison Canyon, Rio Algom mill site, Section 22 mine site, Section 35/36 mine sites, and Section 4 potential on-site repository. The Uranium Commission also toured the new Oncology Center at the Tuba City Regional Health Care and the USDOE Disposal Site at Rare Metals, Monticello Disposal Cell and White Mesa Mill Site. Presentations of these facilities were made prior to the tour.

# Navajo Gaming Regulatory Office

## Navajo Gaming Ordinance Amendment Act of 2018,

Approval of the Navajo Gaming Ordinance Amendment Act of 2018, and the approval by the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC). The Amendment was a huge Project involving NNGE and their attorneys, DOJ and the NNGRO and their attorneys. This Amendment to the Gaming Ordinance incorporated the NIGC “model gaming ordinances”, as well as, updating the Ordinance to reflect the current New Mexico State Tribal Gaming Compact and the Arizona State Tribal Gaming Compact. Included are efficiencies to processes, as well as, clarifications. Once the Navajo Gaming Ordinance Amendment Act of 2018 was not disapproved by the NIGC, it has been in effect.

## Tribal Internal Control Standards (TICS) Project

The NNGRO started its Tribal Internal Control Standards (TICS) Project in April of 2019, starting with training for NNGRO staff on the differences of TICS, MICS (Minimum Internal Control Standards) set by the NIGC and Casino Policies and Procedures. Once NNGRO staff and TICS Project Team was trained, the TICS Project started and 90% of the TICS were developed between July 2019 to October 2019. The remaining TICS will be completed in January 2020, since staff and the TICS Project Team received “hands-on” training on developing TICS. This is a significant and much needed improvement because the Internal Controls, specific to the Navajo Nation casinos, are established and can be used to conduct future audits.

## Adjudication Project Team

In response to the Navajo Gaming Ordinance Amendment Act of 2018, the NNGRO Licensing Department have established an Adjudication Project Team to develop a

set of procedures to ensure the adjudication process is objective, and not dependent on the NNGRO Adjudicator’s personal or unknown biases. The new Adjudication Process fits well with the new Gaming Ordinance, in which a Hearing Officer is to hear Appeals. The new Adjudication Process ensures the decisions are based on facts and the appeals are heard by an external Hearing Officer.

## Upgrades

The upgrades in equipment, software and hardware for the surveillance departments in the Fire Rock and Northern Edge Casinos has had a tremendous boon to our regulatory responsibility. Fire Rock Casino, which opened in 2008, had outdated analog cameras which does not produce the sharpest and clearest surveillance footage, and does not save the surveillance footage in the most efficient file spaces. With the upgrades at Fire Rock, Flowing Water and Northern Edge Casinos, from analog to Internet Protocol (IP) cameras, and the upgrade of software to the new Maxpro VMS/Viewer NVR, the new software is more user friendly and allows for the surveillance staff to effectively use all IP cameras.



# Navajo Nation Office of Management and Budget

## FY 2020 Budget Process

Successfully completed the development and processing of the overall Fiscal Year 2020 Navajo Nation budget beginning in May and presented it to the Navajo Nation Council for approval the first week of September, 2019. The Fiscal Year 2020 budget was approved by the Navajo Nation Council on September 10, 2019 which is the first time that the Council approved the budget on the first day of the Council budget hearings. Following are major activities that occurred during the development of the FY 2020 Navajo Nation budget.

- The Fiscal Year 2020 Budget preparation officially started June 3, 2019 with the approval by the Budget and Finance Committee of the revenue projection and General Fund budget amount of \$167,000,000, the Budget Instructions Manual, the Budget Calendar, and the Branch budget allocations.
- For the 500 Navajo Nations programs, the preparation of program budgets began June 7, 2019 and completion of those budgets, including those from the 110 Navajo Nation chapters, ended June 14, 2019 with budget hearings beginning soon after (June 24 through August 16, 2019), first by the Branch Budget reviews, then the oversight committees budget hearings and finally the Budget and Finance Committee budget hearings.
- The Budget and Finance Committee compiled the overall Navajo Nation budget from these budget hearings and prepared the budget and legislation for presentation to and review, first, by the Nabik'iyatii and then final deliberation and approval by the Navajo Nation Council which occurred on September 3, 2019.
- Once the budget received final approval by the Council and the President, OMB staff further processed the overall budget before the beginning of the new fiscal year by setting up each program budget into the Nation's Financial Management Information System. President Nez signed the budget resolution, CS-30-19, into law on September 13, 2019.
- The total overall FY 2020 budget is \$1.2 billion including General Funds, Indirect Cost Funds, Higher Education Set Aside Funds, Personnel Savings Fund, Capital Outlay, Proprietary and Fiduciary Funds, and External Restricted Funds.

## Status on the Navajo Nation's Indirect Cost (IDC) Rates.

- The IDC rate proposal (ICRP) for FY 2019 rate was approved by Interior Business Center, DOI, and offered IDC rate of 15.85% via IDC Negotiation Agreement on July 9, 2019. Pursuant to 2 NNC Sec. 701 (A) (10), Nabik'iyati Committee accepted the rate by adopting resolution NABIAU-46-19 on August 8, 2019. President Nez signed the IDC agreement accordingly and the same was implemented based on OMB memorandum of August 19, 2019. The proposed IDC rate of 15.69% was in the IDC proposal that was submitted to Interior Business Center (IBC) on April 1, 2019.
- The ICR proposal on FY 2020 IDC rate was submitted to IBC on June 21, 2019 and approved by IBC on November 21, 2019. The offered rate of 18.70% is pending acceptance by the Naa'bik'iyaati' Committee and thereafter signature by President Jonathan Nez.
- The IDC rate is used to budget for recovery of IDC funds on external grant awards. The recovery of IDC funds is done based on actual expenditure of the award. It is stressed the expenditures by Programs be on schedule with grant period that has passed so that the Navajo Nation recovers the full amount of IDC funds earned.

## Compliance of Navajo Nation Contracts and Grants

Administered and monitored compliance of Navajo Nation contracts and grants funded with external funds, and issue compliance reports for those identified grants/contracts. These compliance reports provide important information on grant performance and issues needing remedial action by managers and leadership.

## Quarterly Navajo Nation Organizational Reports

Issued four (4) quarterly Navajo Nation Organizational Reports for the three branches. Each report is comprised of the following three parts: 1.) Plans of Operation, COA, Program Performance, 2.) GF Budget Expenditure/Status and Budget Revisions, and 3.) External Fund Budget Expenditure/Status and Budget Revisions. These management reports provide important information on program performances and budget expenditures including any directives from the Navajo Nation Council.

# Navajo Nation Office of Navajo Tax Commission

## Tax Revenue Projection

The Office of the Navajo Tax Commission (ONTC) was close in meeting the Fiscal Year 2019 Tax Revenue Projection; ONTC collected approximately 97% of the Tax Revenue Projection. The projection was made in March 2018 and anytime we are within 5% of the projection, this an accomplishment. This is especially so with all the unforeseen impacts from the closures of the Navajo Generating Station and the Kayenta Mine.

## Database Project

Entering into an agreement for the Database Project with the selection of HN4 Solutions, LLC and encumbering funds prior to the end of the Fiscal Year 2019. This was a major undertaking as ONTC was initially attempting to utilize the Navajo Land Department System and this plan was scrapped during the second quarter of 2019. ONTC had to develop a Scope of Work and issue a Request for Proposal, advertise

and send out the bid documents for the project and eventually made a selection of a Navajo contractor (buy local, buy Navajo).

## Local Tax Code and the Model Chapter Tax Ordinance

Local Tax Code and the Model Chapter Tax Ordinance: Assisted Chinle Chapter to develop Tax Ordinance that resulted in a Referendum Election. However, language conflict between Title 26 and Title 24 lead to the Board of Election Supervisors to eventually rule on what is considered "majority". Provided training for Naatisaan, Oljato, Shonto, Tsbikin (NOST), Kayenta ASC and Western Agency Chapters on the Local Tax Code and the Model Chapter Tax Ordinance.

## Executive Director

Executive Director participating and providing guidance to the Nez/Lizer Administration on various financial matters (Permanent Fund 5-year Expenditure Plan, annual budget and revenue projection, NGS/Kayenta Mine impact).